



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, April 24, 2026

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Legal and Legislative Services

April 16, 2026

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

The Honourable Robert Flack, Minister of Municipal
Affairs and Housing
College Park, 17th floor
777 Bay Street, Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Honourable and Dear Sirs:

Re: Response to Provincial Proposal on Regional Governance

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Regular Council meeting of April 13, 2026 passed the following resolution:

Whereas Canada is one of the oldest and most stable democracies in the world; and

Whereas Ontario is the most populous province in Canada; and

Whereas one of the hallmarks of a democracy is the right to elect its leaders by popular vote; and

Whereas another hallmark of democracy is rule by the majority as exercised through elected representatives; and

Whereas the Province of Ontario has introduced legislation, the *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*, that will alter governance in the Regions of Durham, Halton, Muskoka, Niagara, Peel, Waterloo and York and Simcoe County; and

Whereas the *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026* proposes the appointment by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing of the Chairs of those Regional Councils and the Warden of Simcoe County; and

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Whereas those unelected, appointed Regional Chairs and County Warden will also be given the power to veto decisions made by the popularly elected members of those Councils, which represents a significant departure from established democratic practices and undermines both the right of residents to elect their leaders and the principle of majority rule; and

Whereas significant changes in local governance should be informed by evidence, financial analysis, sound justification and public consultation, none of which has been the basis for the *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*.

Now therefore be it resolved,

1. **That:** The Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing remove from the pending legislation any provision that grants to an appointed Regional Chair and County Warden extraordinary (“strong”) powers, including the power to veto decisions made by the majority of the popularly elected mayors or members of those Regional or County Councils; and
2. **That:** The Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing ensure that any weighted voting process imposed on the Niagara Region Council respects fair representation by population and ensures that every local municipality has a meaningful voice reflecting the geographic diversity of the Region and the needs of both urban and rural communities; and
3. **That:** The Premier and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing reconsider appointing Regional Chairs and the Simcoe County Warden in favour of direct election by the residents or election by a majority of the members of the Council which they represent; and
4. **That:** The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing consult the local municipalities in Niagara before establishing any weighted voting system in Niagara or proceeding with “Strong Chair” powers for the appointed Chair in Niagara; and
5. **That:** The Mayor and Town staff provide comments to the Provincial Government during the commenting period for the proposed *Better Regional Governance Act, 2026*; and

6. **That:** This resolution be circulated to the Honourable Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack, Niagara's four MPPs, the Niagara Region, all local area municipalities in Niagara, the Regions of Durham, Halton, Muskoka, Peel, Waterloo and York and Simcoe County, Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association for support.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Peter Todd,
Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

PT:dlk

c.c: Niagara Region MPP's wgates-co@ndp.on.ca ; JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca ; JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca ;
sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Region of Niagara ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca
Local Area Municipalities
Alexander Harras, Regional Clerk, Durham Region clerks@durham.ca
Graham Milne, Regional Clerk, Halton Region clerks@halton.ca
Amy Back, District Clerk, The District of Muskoka clerk@muskoka.on.ca / amy.back@muskoka.on.ca
Artha Adams, Regional Clerk, Peel Region regionalclerk@peelregion.ca / Artha.adams@peelregion.ca
Kris Fletcher, Director, Council and Administrative Services/Regional Clerk, Region of Waterloo
regionalclerk@regionofwaterloo.ca
Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk, York Region regional.clerk@york.ca
Jonathan Magill, County Clerk, County of Simcoe clerks@simcoe.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario amo@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca



GEORGINA

Corporate Services Department/Clerk's Division

April 13, 2026

Sent via email, premier@ontario.ca

Premier of Ontario,
Legislative Building,
Queen's Park,
TORONTO, Ontario M7A 1A1

Re: Circular Materials Ontario; Blue Box Extended Producer Responsibility framework

Honourable Premier Ford:

Please be advised that Council for the Town of Georgina considered the position of the Region of York during its March 25th Council Meeting regarding concerns that have arisen following the implementation of the Blue Box Extended Producer Responsibility framework, transferring responsibility for municipal recycling to producer responsibility organizations and their contractors, including Circular Materials Ontario. The Region of York's resolution has been attached for your reference.

Municipalities are experiencing inconsistent recycling collection service levels under the new model, including differences in collection frequency, missed collections, accepted materials, cart provision, contamination management, customer service response times and contractor accountability, resulting in reduced or inferior recycling collection services compared to others despite participating in the same provincial Blue Box program.

Town Council endorsed the Region of York's position and passed the following motion:

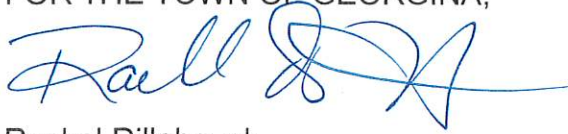
"That Council endorse York Region's resolution regarding Extended Producer Responsibility and fair, consistent and equitable recycling collection service levels across all Ontario municipalities, and call upon the Province to pay due attention to said resolution and act accordingly, that Circular Materials and the Province of Ontario be requested to move Georgina back to weekly collection as per the southern municipalities in York Region and that this endorsement be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Circular Materials Ontario and all Mayors of Ontario."

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Accordingly, we respectfully request that Town Council's endorsement of the Region of York's position be seriously considered, calling upon the Provincial Government to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario and its contractors provide fair, consistent and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario, and that it establish, enforce and publicly report on consistent provide-wide service standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed-collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times and contractor performance.

Sincerely,

FOR THE TOWN OF GEORGINA,



Rachel Dillabough,
Town Clerk

cc: Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks; minister.mecp@ontario.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario; amo@amo.on.ca
Members of Provincial Parliament
Circular Materials Ontario; info@circularmaterials.ca
Municipalities in Ontario

From: Regional.Clerk <regional.clerk@york.ca>

Sent: March 6, 2026 8:13 AM

Subject: Regional Council Decision - Circular Materials Ontario

On February 26, 2026 Regional Council passed the following resolution:

Whereas the Province of Ontario has implemented the Blue Box Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) framework, transferring responsibility for municipal recycling to producer responsibility organizations and their contractors, including Circular Materials Ontario;

And Whereas Circular Materials Ontario has engaged multiple private collection contractors to deliver recycling services to municipalities across Ontario, including those within the Regional Municipality of York;

And Whereas municipalities throughout Ontario are experiencing inconsistent recycling collection service levels under the new EPR model, including differences in collection frequency, missed collections, accepted materials, cart provision, contamination management, customer service response times, and contractor accountability;

And Whereas residents in some municipalities are receiving reduced or inferior recycling collection services compared to others, despite participating in the same provincial Blue Box program;

And Whereas these service level inequities have resulted in increased resident complaints, confusion, reduced participation in recycling programs, and declining public confidence in Ontario's recycling system;

And Whereas upper- and lower-tier municipalities, including York Region, no longer have direct operational control over Blue Box recycling collection, yet continue to experience the impacts of service disruptions and resident dissatisfaction;

And Whereas the intent of Extended Producer Responsibility was to improve environmental outcomes, efficiency, and accountability, not to create unequal treatment of Ontario residents based on municipal boundaries;

And Whereas access to reliable and effective recycling collection is an essential public service and should be fair, consistent, and equitable for all residents of Ontario, regardless of where they live;

Therefore Be It Resolved That the Council of The Regional Municipality of York calls upon the Province of Ontario to intervene to ensure that Circular Materials Ontario and its contractors provide fair, consistent, and equitable recycling collection service levels across all municipalities in Ontario;

And That the Province be requested to establish, enforce, and publicly report on consistent province-wide service standards for Blue Box recycling, including collection frequency, missed-collection recovery, accepted materials, cart provision, customer service response times, and contractor performance;

And That the Province require Circular Materials Ontario to promptly address collection service level inequities and performance gaps between municipalities, including those impacting York Region;

And That this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, all Ontario Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and Circular Materials Ontario and all Mayors of Ontario.

Regards,

Christopher Raynor (he/him) | Regional Clerk, Regional Clerk's Office, Corporate Services Department

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

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

SENT ELECTRONICALLY

February 26, 2026

Ministry of Education
438 University Ave, 15th Floor
Toronto, ON
M7A 2A5

Attention: Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Education

Dear Minister Calandra:

RE: Swim to Survive

Please be advised the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the Lake, at its regular meeting held on January 27, 2026, approved the following resolution:

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 Town of Niagara-on-Lake 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.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact my office at 905-468-6488.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Grant Bivol', with some overlapping strokes.

Grant Bivol
Town Clerk/ Manager of Legislative Services

c.c. Local Members of Provincial Parliament
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

March 17, 2026

RE: Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box

The Council of the Municipality of Bluewater passed the following resolution at their March 16, 2026 regular meeting:

MOVED: Councillor Harris **SECONDED:** Councillor Hessel

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

WHEREAS 'ineligible' sources, which producers are not responsible for, include industrial, commercial, and institutional locations (IC & I) such as businesses, places of worship, daycares, campgrounds, public-facing and internal areas of municipal-owned buildings, and not-for-profit organizations, such as shelters and food banks; and

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

WHEREAS should a municipality continue to provide services to the 'ineligible sources, the municipality will be required to oversee the collection, transportation, processing of the recycling; and

WHEREAS changes may result in many small businesses and not-for-profit organizations losing access to comparable recycling services and force them to seek providers at a much higher cost than the previous services rendered through the Blue Box collection system; and

WHEREAS the rising costs of collection of recycling for industrial, commercial and institutional recycling may lead to the abandonment of recycling entirely, increasing environmental damage; and

WHEREAS landfilling needs throughout the Province of Ontario are already at capacity in many communities; and

WHEREAS The Municipality of Bluewater has approximately 150 or more "non-eligible" sources that will not be provided service from the Producer Responsibility Organization;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipality of Bluewater Council hereby request that the province amend Ontario Regulation 391/21: Blue Box so that producers are responsible for the end-of-life management of recycling products from small businesses and not-for-profit organizations within the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors; and

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

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the local MPP for Huron-Bruce.

CARRIED.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chandra Alexander
Acting CAO
Manager of Corporate Services/Clerk



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

February 5, 2026

Dear Minister Piccini,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

We respectfully ask the Province to consider the following changes:

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

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

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

Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Sincerely,



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



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)

Premier Doug Ford

Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response Jill Dunlop

Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Rob Flack

Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Sarkaria

Acting Minister of Infrastructure Todd McCarthy

Scott Butler, Good Roads Executive Director

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



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

February 5, 2026

Dear Solicitor General Kerzner,

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,



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



Kelly Elliott
Interim Executive Director
Association of Ontario Road Supervisors

Cc (via e-mail)
Premier Doug Ford

March 13, 2026

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 10, 2026 the following resolution regarding OPP - Sustainable Police Services Funding was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-111

DATE: January 29, 2026

MOVED BY: Councillor Roberts

SECONDED BY: Councillor Hirsch

WHEREAS Ontario municipalities are required to maintain a police service or detachment board; and

WHEREAS policing is a provincially legislated responsibility, yet municipalities are bearing the brunt of rising costs to implement provincial mandates;

WHEREAS the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has asserted that the fiscal framework enabling municipalities provided critical policing and public safety services is broken, and AMO requests an urgent update of the provincial-municipal fiscal relationship;

WHEREAS double digit increases in municipal annual Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) budgets are unsustainable, especially as Ontario municipal police services tackle provincial responsibilities such as mental health, addictions, and homelessness challenges that place police resources under enormous financial strain;

WHEREAS municipalities across Ontario are experiencing increased police operating and capital costs directly related to new compliance and operational standards required under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (the Act);

WHEREAS the costs of other measures such as providing provincial court security are increasing and are not part of providing core, adequate and effective municipal policing; and

WHEREAS rural municipalities are especially negatively impacted by these developments;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the County of Prince Edward (Council) requests that the Province provide financial assistance to municipalities to offset all additional costs directly and demonstrably incurred as a result of compliance with the Act and not general increases to police budgets; and

THAT Council urges the Province of Ontario to expeditiously review and reform its current police grant programs to ensure a more equitable distribution of funding to municipalities, so that communities with changing populations and expanding service demands receive fair and sustainable provincial support; and

THAT this resolution of Council be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Solicitor General of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC), the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), and all Ontario municipalities for endorsement.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Roberts, Councillor Hirsch





To Potential Partners

Date: 13 April 2026.

Subject: “Green Trails Ontario (GTO)” launch.

Hello,

We are thrilled to inform that Trans Canada Trail Ontario (TCTO) has grown into "Green Trails Ontario (GTO)," marking an exciting new chapter focused on making Ontario's trails more sustainable and enriching for all who enjoy them. Our renewed mandate empowers us to connect with more Ontarians in championing climate adaptation, strengthening ecological resilience, and promoting the health of citizens. We are no longer constrained by Trans Canada Trail branding, and our new mandate is a dynamic one that adapts to public needs.

The completion of the Trans Canada Trail connections presents an opportunity for us to engage with the broader trail community and address the relevant environmental issues. We began by recognizing the trail environments as part of the larger landscape, their connections to people's health, and their adaptation capabilities to the changing climate. We then reviewed our organizational capacity toward achieving this goal in the most meaningful way, which guided us to our new GTO vision and mission.

Focusing on the five principles: **Sustainable Trails**, **Healthy activities**, **Access to the trail for all age groups**, **Diverse trail uses**, and **Educational trail landscapes**, we have developed strategies to implement multifunctional “SHADE” projects and programs. Together, this effort supports our new overarching “Green and Adaptive” principle and vision. This new direction calls for collaboration with diverse groups, and the GTO team is ready to deliver such initiatives utilizing the knowledge, expertise, and experience it possesses.

Further details are available on our new GTO website. Please respond to our [Green Trails Ontario Partnership Survey](#) expressing your support of our mandate, and to book a spot in our upcoming online seminar.

We look forward to working with you.

Yours truly,

Shompa Hai
General Manager,
Green Trails Ontario (GTO), formerly Trans Canada Trail Ontario (TCTO).



Survey Form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfw6Mw_SmeElygmLhHBA9hApjS77JfqE0W7-nCfniIR28dcwA/viewform?pli=1

Website: <https://greentrailsontario.ca/>

Email: info@greentrailsontario.ca



April 22, 2026

Sent via Email: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Michael Parsa Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, Heads of Council and Municipal Clerks, Ontario Municipalities

Re: Resolution - Declaration of Intimate Partner Violence as an Epidemic

Please be advised that at its meeting held on April 13, 2026, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara passed the following resolution declaring intimate partner violence as an epidemic and requesting action from municipalities and the Province of Ontario.

Council respectfully shares the resolution below for your consideration and support.

Resolution Number CR.103.2026

Moved by Dana Tuju
Seconded by Keith Bell

WHEREAS statistics report that more than 4 in 10 Canadian women have experienced some form of intimate partner violence in their lifetime, and 1 in 10 experience it almost daily;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Provincial Police have determined that in 2024 there was an 18% increase in intimate partner violence victims compared to the previous year;

AND WHEREAS North Simcoe Victim Services has had an increase in calls of 64% in the past two years;

AND WHEREAS Green Haven Women's Shelter, which serves the Township of Ramara, received more than 1,025 crisis calls in the past year;

AND WHEREAS studies note that the risk of intimate partner violence is 75% higher in rural communities, like the Township of Ramara;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara declares intimate partner violence as an epidemic;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Township of Ramara request support from other municipalities to declare intimate partner violence an epidemic, if they have not already done so;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Township of Ramara requests the Province of Ontario to declare intimate partner violence as an epidemic.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Nate Harrington

Nate Harrington, Assistant Clerk
Township of Ramara
nharrington@ramara.ca
705-484-5374 ext. 245

April 1, 2026

Northern Ontario Municipalities

****Sent Via Email****

Re: Special Economic Zone

Dear Northern Ontario Municipalities,

The following resolution was ratified by Council of the City of Greater Sudbury on March 31, 2026:

WHEREAS Canada's economic security and modern defence capabilities depend on resilient supply chains, energy security, and reliable access to critical minerals;

AND WHEREAS Greater Sudbury is one of Canada's most important critical mineral hubs, producing and refining nickel, copper, and other critical minerals essential to national and provincial priorities;

AND WHEREAS these minerals support industries across Canada and among our allies, making Greater Sudbury a strategic centre in the global competition for critical resources;

AND WHEREAS mining activity in Greater Sudbury is rapidly expanding, with the number of mines within municipal boundaries expected to grow from nine to fifteen within five years;

AND WHEREAS the City maintains extensive infrastructure, including more than 3,600 kilometres of roads and major water and wastewater systems across a land mass comparable to Prince Edward Island, supporting both residents and a multi billion dollar industrial ecosystem;

AND WHEREAS the current municipal funding model does not reflect the scale of responsibility borne by Greater Sudbury, resulting in an unsustainable burden on local taxpayers despite the city generating nearly one third of Northern Ontario's GDP;

AND WHEREAS most mining related revenues flow to provincial and federal governments, with only a small portion reinvested in the community that enables this economic activity;

AND WHEREAS a Special Economic Zone designation would ensure that more of the wealth generated in Greater Sudbury is reinvested locally in infrastructure, housing, workforce development, and social services, with significant returns on this investment for both our communities and our government partners;

AND WHEREAS Greater Sudbury has strong partnerships with Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and Wahnapiatae First Nation, and enhanced fiscal capacity would support continued collaboration and shared prosperity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury formally request that the Government of Ontario designate Greater Sudbury as a Special Economic Zone;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council request the Government of Canada recognize Greater Sudbury as a region of national strategic importance and work with the province of Ontario to implement complementary federal measures;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be shared with Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, Wahnapiatae First Nation, FONOM, AMO, and all Northern Ontario municipalities for their support.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a letter conveying Council's support for these measures be sent to:

- Gimaa Craig Noochtai, Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
- Chief Larry Roque, Wahnapiatae First Nations
- The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada
- The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- All Northern Ontario municipalities

Yours truly,

Brigitte Sobush
Manager of Clerk's Services/Deputy City Clerk

c. Members of City Council



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF MADAWASKA VALLEY**

P.O. Box 1000

85 Bay Street

Barry's Bay ON K0J 1B0

Ph 613-756-2747 Fax 613-756-0553

info@madawaskavalley.ca

Moved by: Mary Blank
Seconded by: Shelley Maika

07-RC-21 Apr 2026
21 April 2026

BE IT RESOLVED

**Council for the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley supports the
Resolution of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan**

Be It resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley supports the resolution from the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan supporting correspondence received from James Bay East regarding a Provincial Bail Notification Program. And further that this resolution be forwarded to the all OPP Detachment Boards and all municipalities in Ontario.

X CARRIED

Suzanne Klatt

Suzanne Klatt, CAO/Clerk

**Replies to this correspondence can be forwarded
electronically to dclerk@madawaskavalley.ca**



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Moved by: Shelley Maika
Seconded by: Linda Neuman

08-RC-21 Apr 2026
21 April 2026

BE IT RESOLVED

Council for the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley supports the Resolution of the Township of Oro-Medonte

THAT Council for the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley supports the resolution from Township of Oro-Medonte regarding the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors and their request for Provincial Legislation Amendments to strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors and;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to: The Premier of Ontario, Michael Kerzner - Solicitor General of Ontario, Jill Dunlop - Minister of Emergency Preparedness and Response, Rob Flack - Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Prabmeet Sakaria - Minister of Transportation, MPP Billy Denault, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) , Association of Ontario Roads Supervisors (AORS) , Ontario municipalities

X CARRIED

Suzanne Klatt

Suzanne Klatt, CAO/Clerk

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Moved by: Joseph Cybulskie
Seconded by: Shelley Maika

06-RC-21 Apr 2026
21 April 2026

BE IT RESOLVED

Council for the Corporation of the Township of Madawaska Valley supports the Resolution of the Township of Brudenell, Lyndoch and Raglan

WHEREAS arable land is a critical and finite resource and;

WHEREAS Ontario loses as much as 319 acres off farmland a day and;

WHEREAS Ontario's farmland provides food, fiber and fuel to all of Ontario and beyond;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Township of Madawaska Valley support Bill21, Protect Our FoodAct,2025 and strongly urges the provincial government to support this and every measure to protect our farmland, to aggressively prevent further losses and to ensure the future of agriculture in Ontario for future generations and;

THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, MPP Billy Denault, Senator Rob Flack, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and all Municipalities in Ontario

X CARRIED

Suzanne Klatt

Suzanne Klatt, CAO/Clerk

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The Corporation of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan

April 23, 2026

Sent via Email:

The Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada, pm@pm.gc.ca
Senator Robert Black, robert.black@sen.parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Steve MacKinnon, Minister of Transportation, steven.mackinnon@parl.gc.ca
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
M.P. Emma Harrison, Emma.Harrison@parl.gc.ca
M.P.P. David Piccini, david.piccinico@pc.ola.org
Liberal Riding Association, ontario@liberal.ca
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Rgiroux@fcm.ca
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario, amo@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association, roma@roma.on.ca
Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus, info@eowc.org
All Ontario Municipalities

Re: Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan Resolution - ALTO High Speed Rail

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan, at its meeting on April 20th, 2026 passed the following resolution:

R83-2026

The council of the Township of Otonabee South Monaghan wishes to formally register opposition to the ALTO High Speed rail project as it is currently proposed. We find the first round of consultation to be inadequate, and critical information is lacking. This includes but is not limited to:

- the location of the route and the social and economic impact that will divide communities,
- how landowners directly and indirectly affected by this route will be compensated,
- how much agricultural land will be taken out of production,
- how environmental impact will be mitigated,
- how municipalities will be compensated for land assessment loss,
- how many rural roads will be dead ended at the tracks,
- where overpasses will be constructed,

- how municipalities will be compensated for increased road maintenance and emergency response costs due to these closures,
- how a project which travels through a small section of Canada and benefits a very small percentage of our urban population can be considered “Nation Building”,
- a very weak and extremely long-term business case with no unknown long term financial impact,
- a project that will add substantially to an already crippling national debt load of approximately \$1.4 trillion, which currently costs Canadians about \$75 million/day to service.

Moved by: Nick Powers; seconded by: Bonnie Clark

Yes: Bonnie Clark, Joe Taylor, Mark Allen, Terry Holmes, and Nick Powers

Carried 5-0

Yours truly,
Township of Otonabee-South Monaghan



Liz Ross
Deputy Clerk