



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, August 14, 2026

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Welland City Council

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

DATE: August 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Physician Recruitment Incentive – Dr. Olaitan Abolarin

I'm pleased to inform Council that Dr. Olaitan Abolarin has chosen Welland for her family practice and will be practicing at Welland Family Doctors and Walk-in Clinic located at 3 Cross Street. Dr. Abolarin will begin seeing patients on August 24, 2026, and is currently accepting new patient registrations. If you know of anyone looking for a family physician, they can become a patient by calling 905-714-0001 or by email to welland@caringfamilydoctors.ca.

Since the approval of the Physician Recruitment Incentive in June 2023, City staff have worked closely with the Region's Physician Recruitment Specialist to attract new family physicians to Welland. As of August 2026, the program successfully met its target of recruiting 20 family physicians. However, one physician who joined the program left Welland in December 2025 and, in accordance with the terms of the agreement, repaid a portion of the incentive received. As a result, a partial incentive remains available for a family physician interested in establishing a practice in Welland.



MUNICIPALITY OF

North Perth

www.northperth.ca

A Community of Character

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August 10, 2026

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

Re: Support for the Town of Whitby – Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that the Council of the Municipality of North Perth passed the following resolution at its meeting on July 6, 2026:

THAT: The Council of the Municipality of North Perth supports Consent Agenda Item 7.4 from the Town of Whitby regarding the Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions and that a copy of the support resolution be sent to all relevant parties, including MPP Matthew Rae, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Perth County Lower Tiers, County of Perth and all Ontario Municipalities.

A copy of the Town of Whitby's resolution is attached for reference.

Please accept this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Regards,

Lindsay Cline
Clerk/Legislative Services Supervisor

Encl.: Town of Whitby Resolution

CC: Town of Whitby
The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Matthew Rae, MPP Perth-Wellington
County of Perth
Town of St. Marys
Township of Perth East
Township of Perth South
Municipality of West Perth
All Ontario Municipalities

June 25, 2026

Via Email

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

Re: Review of the Ontario Land Tribunal and Enhancing Deference to Municipal Planning Decisions

Please be advised that at its meeting held on June 22, 2026, the Council of the Town of Whitby adopted the following as Resolution # 166-26:

Whereas local councils are elected by residents to make planning decisions that reflect the needs and priorities of their communities;

Whereas municipalities rely on extensive public consultation, professional planning advice, engineering studies, and technical reports when making land-use decisions;

Whereas the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) has the authority to overturn municipal planning decisions, often requiring municipalities to spend significant taxpayer dollars defending decisions that have already undergone a thorough local review process;

Whereas lengthy and costly appeals can delay housing projects, consume municipal resources, and reduce the ability of municipalities to focus on delivering services to residents; and,

Whereas local governments should have greater certainty and authority when decisions are consistent with approved Official Plans, provincial policies, and sound planning principles.

Now Therefore be it Resolved:

1. That the Government of Ontario be requested to review the role and mandate of the Ontario Land Tribunal to ensure greater respect for municipal planning decisions that are supported by evidence, public consultation, and approved planning policies;

2. That the Province consider amendments to the Planning Act and Ontario Land Tribunal Act to provide stronger deference to municipal decisions that align with provincial planning frameworks and Official Plans;
3. That the Province improve transparency and accountability within the Ontario Land Tribunal by requiring clear and detailed reasoning when municipal decisions are overturned;
4. That the Province explore measures to reduce the financial burden on municipalities defending planning decisions before the OLT, helping to protect taxpayer dollars and improve the efficiency of the planning process; and,
5. That Staff be directed to circulate this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities for consideration and support.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of the Town Clerk at 905-430-4300.



Kathryn Douglas
Supervisor, Legislative Services
clerk@whitby.ca

Copy: C. Harris, Director of Legislative Services/Town Clerk - clerk@whitby.ca

The Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing - minister.mah@ontario.ca
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All Ontario Municipalities