



COUNCIL INFORMATION PACKAGE

Friday, April 19, 2024

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PENDING MOTION REFERRAL/DEFERRAL SUMMARY AS OF APRIL 9, 2024					
CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
02-85 16-26	Infrastructure Services	July 19, 2016	Draft Sidewalk Policy that focuses on the creation of new sidewalks and the improvement and maintenance of existing sidewalks.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> Quarter 4, 2024	
99-99	Community Services	May 3, 2016	Report regarding potential alternatives to expand the use of waterway by the general public. Defers Report R&C-2017-08: Public Consultation Process - 'Go Quiet By-law' & Alternative Uses of the Waterway to the General Committee meeting on September 26, 2017.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> R&C-2017-06 - October 4, 2017 was received for information.	
17-2	Planning & Development Services Traffic & By-laws	September 19, 2017	Refers back to staff for report regarding Section 8 Schedule 3 Food Vehicle, Section 7 Schedule 2 Food Premises and Exemption Section 10 Schedule 4 Hawker and Peddler from By-law 2011-173. Went to the May 15th Council Meeting to be deferred to staff for a report to a General Committee meeting.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> Report coming back April 2024.	
04- 124/18-4	Finance & Engineering	February 20, 2018	Report regarding identifying alternative funding sources to adequately address water meter replacement in 2018.	<u>Status:</u> Completed <u>To Complete:</u>	Memorandum on Apr. 19/24 in Council Information Package on Apr. 19/24

CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
18-20	Community Services	April 17, 2018	Defers appointing 1 Council Member to the SEART Committee to the second General Committee meeting in May with the terms of reference.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
18-73	Infrastructure Services	May 8, 2018	Develop a long term program together with the Region of Niagara over the next 5 years to reduce inflow infiltration within the Dain City Catchment Area.	Status: In progress To Complete: Working with Regional staff over the next 5 years.	
09-152 18-2	Planning & Development Services and Fire Department	June 5, 2018	Report on an education strategy to the public, tenants and landlords regarding rental housing.	Status: In progress To Complete: Fire and Planning to provide an update report in 2024.	
09-159	Infrastructure Services	January 15, 2019	Signed petition regarding the replacement of the Dain City Bridge and refers the matter to staff. January 15, 2019 Council meeting: Council approves and recommends that Niagara Regional Council be requested to fund Phase 1 costs of \$4 million for demotion, pier testing and detailed design of the Forks Road Bridge, as recommended by the Budget Review Committee at its meeting of January 14, 2019.	Status: In progress To Complete: March 19, 2019 - Council approved demolition of Forks Road Bridge. Next steps to be considered in the future.	

CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
19-28	Planning & Development Services	March 5, 2019	Request for a Community Teaching Garden to staff for study and review.	Status: In progress To Complete: To be brought to the Green Advisory Committee for consideration in 2024.	
99-110	Community Services	May 7, 2019	Report regarding naming the trails along the waterway.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
19-75	Clerks Division	May 21, 2019	Report on suitable replacements for paper by becoming paper free by the end of the year 2019. Motion at BRC in Sept./Oct. for paper copies.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
19-28	CAO	July 9, 2019	Report regarding a partnership between all 4 Service Clubs to a General Committee meeting. (Kiwanis, Lions, Optimist and Rotary Clubs).	Status: In progress To Complete:	
19-88	CAO	July 9, 2019	Create a "Downtown Vacancy Mitigation Action Plan" between the City, Business, Community and applicable stakeholders that addresses vacancy rates in our downtown areas.	Status: In progress To Complete: To be included in the upcoming Downtown Revitalization Strategy 2024 work.	

CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
99-99	Community Services	September 3, 2019	Staff to start a public consultation process on the design of a new park area and that a report to include public replacement of the current park infrastructure and enhancements due to the loss of parkland come to General Committee by the end of 2019.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u>	
19-103	Planning & Development Services	September 17, 2019	Report on possible enhancements to the public notification process for Committee of Adjustment hearings. Went to the October 1, 2019 Council meeting requesting that subsequent report be provided outlining costs for the two options provided.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> 3 rd Quarter in 2024.	
08-48	Planning & Development Services	February 18, 2020	Refers back to staff a report regarding an Occupancy Standards By-law.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> 2 nd Quarter 2024.	
19-94	Planning & Development Services	February 18, 2020	Refers back to staff matter regarding the petition from residents from 155 Gadsby Avenue, there be no change to the zoning, which is currently zoned as open space, in order to protect wild life.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u> Ontario Land Tribunal matter at this time.	

CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
20-77	Infrastructure Services	June 16, 2020	WHEREAS due to the recent pandemic the City of Welland is not able to provide services that they normally would perform do to the safety of its employees; and further WHEREAS if residents did in fact require a service that is normally provided by the City, in this case being a sewer related service and had to act immediately and contact an outside contractor and in resolving the issue a fee was paid. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND directs staff to create a report to reimburse part or all of the fee paid by the owner (with guidelines similar to the rodent control program to be adhered to) and the amount be capped and for a certain period to time.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
20-106	Planning & Development Services	October 6, 2020	Signed petition from the residents of Caithness Drive regarding turning an established residential area from a single family homes to duplexes and refers this petition to Planning staff for review.	Status: In progress To Complete: Will be considered as part of update to City's Official Plan in 2024.	
20-19	Planning & Development Services	October 20, 2020	Refers to staff for report the notice of motion regarding 113 Michael Drive, redesignates this area as Open Space and proceed with an RFP to have a park with playground equipment be installed at this location.	Status: In progress To Complete: Approval for Park Development and will be amended to Open Space in the updated to the City's Official Plan.	

CLERKS REF. NO.	DIVISION RESPONSIBLE FOR ITEM	DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	SUBJECT/ACTION	STATUS OF THE ITEM	COMMENTS/ COMPLETION INFORMATION
20-82	Planning & Development Services	March 2, 2021	Report regarding a Municipal Comprehensive Review, under section 4.3.3.1 of the Official Plan, for the property outlined in Report P&B-2021-08 for an Employment Land conversion from Gateway Economic Centre to Agriculture.	Status: In progress To Complete: To be considered as part of the update to the Official Plan in 2024.	
21-58	CAO & Planning & Development Services	March 2, 2021	Report regarding Brownfield Employment Lands that are non-employment producing within the city limits.	Status: In progress To Complete: Will be included in 2024 update to the Brownfield CIP.	
21-59	CAO & Economic Development	March 2, 2021	Report on a strategy to aggressively pursue the acquisition of seaway lands from the Federal government, to discuss with them an accelerated process to declare such lands surplus and enter into discussions for the acquisition of identified properties and review options for "lease to own" such lands until such time as they become available. Staff identify Seaway lands of interest and develop servicing plans and other strategies as may be required and further staff identify other lands within and/or adjacent to employment lands identified in Welland's official plan that would be strategic acquisitions for the purpose of industrial/employment use and see if owners are interested in selling those lands to the municipality. If they are not interested the city would not pursue expropriation. In relation to all of the above staff would prepare strategies and associated costs to service lands so that they would be "shovel ready".	Status: In progress To Complete: Update report to come in 2024 through Economic Development.	
06-156	Planning & Development Services	April 20, 2021	Report as part of the Official Plan Review detailing what Urban Farming initiatives Council should consider accommodating.	Status: In progress To Complete:	

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21-92	Planning & Development Services	July 6, 2021	Report regarding petition by residents of Seaway Pointe Condominium at 330 Prince Charles Drive regarding parking space for the Evertrust Development at 350 Prince Charles Drives.	Status: In progress To Complete: Applications were approved and building is currently under construction.	
98-82	Community Services	September 21, 2021	Refers Report R&C-2021-17 back to staff to present an updated design to an upcoming General Committee Meeting based on the comments from members of Council.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
21-22	Planning & Development Services Traffic and By-laws Division	December 21, 2021	Refers to staff signed petition regarding installation of speed bumps and a speed reduction in front of the Park entrance area on Page Drives.	Status: To Complete:	
22-57	Infrastructure Services	February 22, 2022	Refers back to staff Report ENG-2022-08: Environmental Compliance Approval No. A120412 Amendment Application – 65 Canal Bank Street.	Status: To Complete:	
07-144	Economic Development	January 31, 2023	Dissolution of the Welland Development Commission (WDC) referred back to staff for further information.	Status: To Complete:	
05-50	Planning & Development Services	March 7 & 28, 2023	Refers back to staff regarding changes to the Municipal Heritage Register from the Town of Grimsby and Report P&B-2023-06.	Status: In process To Complete: 2 nd Quarter 2024.	
02-160	Planning & Development Services	March 27, 2023	Staff report re: having Council representation or staff on the Committee of Adjustment, Grants and Programs and Property Standards Committee.	Status: In process To Complete: 2 nd Quarter 2024.	

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22-152	Planning & Development Services	March 27, 2023	Develop content for residents, simplifying and explain the process to provide a better understanding for interested parties, and to freely provide these resources to members of the public by posing online on the City website.	Status: In Progress To Complete: 3 rd Quarter 2024.	
23-62	Human Resources Division	April 25, 2023	Refers back to staff Report HR-2023-01: Non-Union Performance Evaluation Policy.	Status: To Complete:	
02-160	Human Resources Division/ Clerks Division	May 16, 2023	Refers back to staff a notice of motion to arrange a customized training session, Human Rights and Equity: The Role and Obligations of Municipal Leaders offered by the Association of Municipalities not later than Q2 in 2024.	Status: To Complete:	
23-22	Planning & Development Services Traffic and By-laws Division	May 16, 2023	Refers back to staff Report P&B-2023-15: Cash In Lieu of parking Policy. Went to the July 18, 2023 Council Meeting to consult with the development community and public with regards to the proposed Cash-In-Lieu Parking By-law with a final By-law for consideration.	Status: In progress To Complete:	
21-79	Planning & Development Services	June 6, 2023	Refers back to staff Report P&B-2023-22 Application for Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for 368 Aqueduct Street and 155 Gadsby Avenue.	Status: In progress To Complete: At Ontario Land Tribunal due to decision from Council.	
22-137	Planning & Development Services	June 6, 2023	Refers back to staff Report P&B-2023-20 Application for Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment for 50 Bruce Street.	Status: In progress To Complete: At Ontario Land Tribunal due to decision from Council.	

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02-160	CAO	September 5, 2023	Refers back to staff notice of motion re: shall be notified in camera if any entity including but not limited to committees, commissions, agencies or boards that the city funds, or approves members or places members of council on, if this entity experiences any litigation involving its members.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
02-160	Clerks Division	September 19, 2023	Refers back to staff Report CLK-2023-19: Amendment to Hybrid Model – Meeting of Council.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
23-122	Clerks Division	September 19, 2023	Refers back to staff Notice of Motion regarding the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report recommendation #57.	<u>Status:</u> City Clerk is exploring training opportunities. <u>To Complete:</u>	
21-121	Engineering Division/Planning Division	November 21, 2023	Report to increase the funding for SWAP Program to soften costs to the homeowner.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
06-84	Community Services	December 12, 2023	Correspondence from Town of Fort Erie re: encouraging contribution supporting Hospice Niagara and refers the motion back to staff for a report.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
23-28	Community Services	December 19, 2023	Presentation re: Crimestoppers Program and refers matter to staff for report.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	

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24-22	Planning & Development Services Traffic and By-laws Division	January 9, 2024	Erecting stop signs on Daimler Pkwy at Magnolia Lane both directions for the safety of all.	<u>Status:</u> Complete <u>To Complete:</u>	TRAF-2424-03 April 9, 2024
99-99	Community Services	January 9, 2024	Prepare a report in regards to creating and allowing family caping along the west side of the former Welland Canal.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
23-22	Planning & Development Services Traffic and By-laws Division	January 9, 2024	Report that would address parking at Chippawa Park from the pavilion on First Avenue north to Laughlin Avenue on the park property which is currently grass/open space similar to Bugar Park.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
24-19/17-19	Community Services	September 17, 2019, February 27, 2024 and April 9, 2024	Staff to consult with public, agencies and other stakeholders regarding tree preservation. AND On February 27/24 report to include but is not limited to – the specifics and terms of the contract, the bidders, scoring and the awarding of the contract, any damages, future replanting, costs and funding and to include a recommendation to Council.	<u>Status:</u> In progress <u>To Complete:</u>	
24-24	Finance Division	March 19, 2024	Refers Report HR-2024-05: Non-Union Compensation Policy to staff.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
24-36	Planning & Development Services	March 19, 2024	Petition from residents of the City of Welland opposing the planning application for the zoning at 44 Heron Street.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	

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23-29	Clerk's Division	April 9, 2024	Staff to prepare a report for Council to consider a "Councillor Information Report".	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	
24-14	Clerk's Division	April 9, 2024	Staff to provide council with options on a reduced council size, with the sole objective to reduce the cost on to the taxpayer.	<u>Status:</u> <u>To Complete:</u>	

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of Welland City Council

FROM: Elizabeth Pankoff, CPA, CMA

DATE: April 19, 2024

SUBJECT: Council Notice of Motion/Resolution. 04-124/18-4 Regarding identifying funding sources to adequately address water meter replacement

With an annual base budget of \$400,000 for water meter replacement programs, it would take approximately 12 years (utilizing 2023 pricing) to change the original meters that were installed during the first universal metering project.

During the 2024 budget process, staff brought forth a plan to replace the remaining 10,000 meters within two years (2024/2025). Phase 1 was built into the 2024 Water/Wastewater capital budget with a total cost of approximately \$2.4 million, funded by transfer from operating dollars and debt financing. For Phase 2, a Decision Unit (Appendix 1) was brought forth for councils' consideration seeking pre-approval for the 2025 Water Meter Replacement Program (\$2.4m) and to increase the City's Water/Wastewater (Rate) self-imposed debt limit from 11% to 12%.

At the December 5, Special Council meeting, budgets were adopted which included Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Water Meter Replacement capital program totaling approximately \$4.8 million, funded by transfer from operating dollars as well as debt financing. This now concludes Council Notice of Motion/Resolution. 04-124/18-4

ATTACHMENT: Appendix 1 – Decision Unit Support Sheet, Phase 2-2025 Water Meter Replacement Program and Increasing the Rate Self-Imposed Debt Limit from 11% to 12%



The Corporation of the City of Welland
Decision Unit Support Sheet

Decision Unit: Phase 2-2025 Water Meter Replacement Program and Increasing the Rate Self-Imposed Debt Limit from 11% to 12%	Department: Infrastructure Services – Public Works
Cost: \$2,366,000 (50% water, 50% wastewater)	Budget Year:2024 Seeking Pre-approval for 2025 budget year.

Decision Unit Description/Rationale:

Currently the Public Works Division is replacing \$400,000 worth of water meters annually, the volume of meters being replaced declines annually as projects cost increase.

As water meters age they become less accurate, especially at lower flow rates. Water uses that would be considered lower flow rates could include uses such as running toilet, leaky faucet, leaky hose bibs or turning on a faucet partially.

Without accurate water meters unbilled consumption is spread amongst all rate payers, an accurate water meter plays an important role in ensuring all users pay for their consumption.

At the present water meter project budget, it will take an additional 12 years (using 2023 pricing) to change the original meters that were installed during the first universal metering project.

With a faster transition to all radio frequency water meters Staff will be given the opportunity to increase customer service by shortening billing periods and creating an online portal for users. Both the shorter billing period and the online portal put consumption information in the hands of the rate payer, improving their ability to track usage and monitor consumption.

Financial Implication:

Water Meters \$2,366,000 split between water and wastewater

The true financial impact to each rate payer of declining water meter accuracy over the next 12 years cannot be calculated.

According to Stats Canada the average Canadian uses 9 cubic meters of water per month, a household of 4 would use 36 cubic meters monthly.

If we assume 2.5 people per home using 23 cubic meters a month and a modest meter accuracy of 97%, that would result in 8.28 cubic meters of consumed unbilled water per metered account annually.

There are approximately 10,000 water meters that would be replaced as part of this project.

10,000 meters x (8.28 m³ x \$5.15 m³)

10,000 meters x \$42.64 (consumed unbilled water per meter annually)

Potential recovery of \$426,420 annually

To complete Phase 2-2025 Water Meter Replacement Program, staff is seeking pre-approval to increase the City's Rate Self-Imposed Debt limit from 11% to 12%.

April 12, 2024

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Queens Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL

Dear Premier Ford,

Re: Motion regarding Affordability of Water and Wastewater Rates

Please be advised that at its regular meeting of April 9, 2024, Loyalist Township Council passed the following resolution:

Resolution 2024-77

Moved by Councillor Willis
Seconded by Councillor Parks

WHEREAS a resolution passed by the County of Renfrew regarding the unaffordability of rural and small urban water and wastewater systems has been circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; and

WHEREAS due to the typical geography of rural Ontario, it is not unusual for smaller municipalities to be responsible for several treatment facilities; and

WHEREAS the costs associated with the operations, upkeep and upgrade of a number of treatment facilities and other infrastructure to meet provincial regulations in both environmental and financial planning capacities for smaller urban centers, which typically has a much lower population density per total kilometers of water and sewer as compared to larger municipalities, is a significant financial burden on system users for this essential necessity;



NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Loyalist Township supports the County of Renfrew's request to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) to examine if the unaffordability of water and wastewater system operational costs is systemic provincially and nationally;

AND THAT if the unaffordability is determined to be systemic, provincial and federal governments appropriately fund an assistance program for smaller municipalities with financial oversight of drinking water and wastewater systems;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be circulated to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure; the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings - Lennox & Addington; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Rural Ontario Municipal Association; and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Motion carried.

Sincerely,

Anne Kantharajah
Township Clerk
akantharajah@loyalist.ca
613-386-7351 Ext. 121

cc: the Honourable Kinga Surma, Minister of Infrastructure
the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
the Honourable Andrea Khanjin, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
Ric Bresee, MPP Hastings - Lennox & Addington;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Jim Hegadorn, Mayor, Loyalist Township
Rebecca Murphy, CAO, Loyalist Township
Councillor Willis, Loyalist Township
Councillor Parks, Loyalist Township



Association of Municipalities Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca

Hon. Doug Ford premier@ontario.ca

Hon. Todd Smith Todd.Smithco@pc.ola.org

MPP Bob Bailey bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org

municipalaffairs@enbridge.com

(sent via e-mail)

April 12th, 2024

Re: Energy Transition

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on April 10th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from Terrace Bay regarding Energy Transition.

Motion #12

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Alex Boughen

That Council support correspondence item 'j' from Terrace Bay regarding Energy Transition.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn

Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All regional Municipalities

Terrace Bay
Regular Council - 04 Mar 2024

Item b)

Date: March 4, 2024

CR60-2024

Moved by *Gary Adduono*
Seconded by *[Signature]*

WHEREAS access to natural gas is important to residents and businesses in our community for affordability and reliability

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas 2024 rebasing application, issued on 21 December 2023, has concerning implications including putting into question the future access to natural gas that support of economic development, affordable housing growth, and energy reliability in communities such as the Township of Terrace Bay;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is growing and access to affordable energy to support this growth for homes and businesses is crucial, as is a measured approach to energy transition as not having access to natural gas will stifle economic growth and put housing and energy affordability at risk;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: THAT the Township of Terrace Bay supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition;

AND FURTHER, that the Municipality of ~~Tweed~~ *Terrace Bay* recognizes that there may not be enough electricity available to replace the energy provided by natural gas and meet the increased demand from electrification;

AND FURTHER, that natural gas must continue to play an integral role in meeting the energy needs of Ontario;

AND FURTHER, that the Municipality of ~~Tweed~~ *Terrace Bay* supports the work the Government of Ontario has done to date, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's call for a clear policy on the role of natural gas to secure access to affordable energy;

AND FURTHER, that this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy, Lise Vagueois, Member of Provincial Parliament for Thunder Bay - Superior North, all regional municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com

☒ Carried

☐ Defeated

☐ Recorded Vote

Recorded Vote:

	Yes	No
Mayor Paul Malashewski		
Councillor Gary Adduono		
Councillor Chris Dube	Page 20 of 102	

Councillor Bert Johnson		
Councillor Rick St. Louis		



Mayor



The Honourable Lisa Thompson
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
11th Floor
77 Grenville St
Toronto, ON
M5S 1B3

(sent via e-mail)

April 12th, 2024

Re: Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on April 10th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe regarding a Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit.

Motion #14

Moved by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues

Seconded by Councillor John van Klaveren

That Council support correspondence item 'I' from the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe regarding a Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: Association of Municipalities Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
All regional Municipalities



March 22nd, 2024

The Honourable Lisa Thompson
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
11th Floor
77 Grenville St.
Toronto, ON M5S 1B3

RE: Township of Adelaide Metcalfe – Request to Increase Tile Drain Loan Limit

Dear Minister Thompson,

On March 18, 2024, the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe Council approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS farm drainage is of paramount importance in Ontario due to its significant impact on agricultural productivity and sustainability. Effective drainage systems help mitigate waterlogging, control soil moisture levels, and enhance soil structure, thereby optimizing growing conditions for crops;

WHEREAS improved drainage also facilitates timely field operations, reduces erosion, and minimizes nutrient runoff, contributing to environmental conservation efforts;

WHEREAS Ontario's diverse agricultural landscape, where weather variability is common, well-maintained drainage systems play a crucial role in ensuring stable yields, economic viability, and long-term resilience for farmers across the Province;

WHEREAS the Tile Loan Drainage Act, R.S.O 1990, c. T.8 allows for the borrowing of money for the purpose of constructing drainage works;

WHEREAS the maximum annual limit for these loans, unchanged since 2004, is currently set at \$50,000.

WHEREAS costs for Tile Drainage has increased markedly since 2004;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Township of Adelaide Metcalfe requests that the Province through the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) consider increasing the maximum annual Tile Loan limit to a minimum of \$100,000.

AND THAT this resolution be circulated the Honourable Lisa Thompson – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all Ontario municipalities.

Your consideration of Council's request is appreciated.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'MB', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Barnier
Clerk & Manager of Legislative Services
Township of Adelaide Metcalfe
mbarnier@adelaidemetcalfe.on.ca

Cc: Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)
All Ontario Municipalities

Economic Development Brief

April 15, 2024

Statistics and Trends

Labour force conditions

Labour force conditions (unadjusted) in Niagara and Ontario continued to weaken in March 2024; but again, most of the changes were attributable to seasonal factors.

Month-over-month data from February to March 2024 show the following:

- Population: Niagara increased by 0.3% (1,100 people), while Ontario increased by the same rate.
- Labour force: Niagara decreased by 1.0% (2,300), while Ontario increased by 0.5%.
- Employment: Niagara decreased by 2.1% (4,400), while Ontario decreased by 0.04%.
- Unemployment rate: Niagara increased by 1% to 9.0%, while Ontario increased by 0.5% to 6.6%.
- Participation rate: Niagara decreased by 0.7% to 58.9%, while Ontario increased by 0.1% to 64.3%.

Labour force characteristics indicate a persistent slowing of Niagara's economy with Niagara being impacted disproportionately more than Ontario. However, GDP forecasts by The Conference Board of Canada in March 2024 predict Niagara will outperform Ontario and this along with seasonal employment should help improve labour indicators in the near term.

Economic Development Updates

Port Colborne launches Studio Port Colborne

With the launch of Studio Port Colborne, Ontario welcomes another new film office to its burgeoning network of production hubs. This announcement comes on the heels of a request to Council to approve the City's first filming policy. The team at the City of Port Colborne looks forward to collaborating with all municipalities across the region to grow the film industry's interest in Niagara. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

Jungbunzlauer in Port Colborne announces major expansion

Jungbunzlauer has announced a multi-phase expansion for its facility in Port Colborne. The company currently manufactures citric acid at the facility and is adding a new product line to produce xanthan gum. Phase 1 of the project will involve a capital investment of \$180 million including a new 60,000 SF building and 50 new jobs.

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

Welland Economic Development hosts information session with the Automotive Part Manufacturing Association (APMA)

The City of Welland and the APMA launched Project Arrow 2.0 at an information session, aiming to tackle challenges in the electric vehicle sector through innovation and collaboration. The project emphasizes multi-sector cooperation to drive advancements in electric vehicles, drawing together representatives from various industries and institutions. Welland's commitment to pioneering solutions in clean transportation, along with the region's manufacturing expertise, positions it as a leader in shaping the future of sustainable mobility through Project Arrow 2.0. Over 50 people attended from varying professional disciplines.

Brock research farm to grow future of sustainable agriculture in Canada with \$3.5 million CFI grant

Brock has received a \$3.5 million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) to support Brock University's Clean Agriculture for Sustainable Production (CASP) Field Infrastructure project, expanding research into grape and wine industry innovations. The project includes phases like the Clean Plant Program, Precision Agriculture and Ecological Interactions, and Urban Applications, aiming to enhance sustainability and efficiency in agriculture while benefiting Canada's agri-food sector. This investment underscores Brock University's commitment to advancing agricultural research and its significant contributions to industry development and environmental sustainability.

Lincoln celebrates third successful job fair

The Town of Lincoln hosted its first job fair of 2024 on March 27, drawing 400 attendees and 28 local businesses, highlighting its commitment to fostering economic prosperity and connecting job seekers with opportunities. Supported by the Work in Lincoln initiative and funding from the Province of Ontario's Skills Development Fund, the job fair underscores the Town's dedication to enhancing opportunities for its residents.

Lincoln Launches 2024 Niagara Benchlands Destination Development Fund

The Niagara Benchlands Destination Development Fund is open for the 2024 season, offering financial support to tourism-based businesses and organizations in Lincoln to develop new projects and initiatives. Eligible entities within the municipal boundaries of Lincoln, including for-profit and not-for-profit businesses, public sector agencies, and private sector agencies, can apply for funding to enhance Lincoln's tourism economy. The fund aims to encourage collaboration among local businesses and tourism operators to create innovative, capacity-building tourism products and initiatives. Applications are accepted until Monday, May 6, 2024, at 5:00 pm. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

Niagara-on-the-Lake hires Economic Development Officer

Niagara-on-the-Lake welcomes Ashleigh Myers as its new Economic Development Officer. Ashleigh joins the Town from Bell Media Niagara & Hamilton, where she serves as a Business Development, Marketing, and Advertising Executive. Ashleigh's background in business development and marketing, along with her extensive network, positions her to support local businesses, attract investments, and promote sustainable growth. Ashleigh starts on May 6, 2024.

Ontario advances construction to expand Garden City Skyway

The Ontario government has initiated the expansion of the Queen Elizabeth Way (QEW) Garden City Skyway, aiming to alleviate gridlock and improve connectivity within the Greater Golden Horseshoe region. The Skyway expansion includes construction of a new four-lane, 2.2 km bridge across the Welland Canal, as well as the rehabilitation and full deck replacement of the current bridge. Once complete, each bridge will have four lanes with the new bridge carrying Toronto-bound traffic and the upgraded existing bridge carrying Niagara-bound traffic.

Ontario Shipyards starts phase 2 of the CCGS Terry Fox project at Port Weller Dry Docks

Last week marked the official commencement of phase two of the CCGS Terry Fox Vessel Life Extension Project at the Port Weller Dry Docks, representing the largest project ever awarded by the Canadian government. The iconic icebreaker will undergo extensive repairs and enhancements in the deep graving dock next week, showcasing the skills and capabilities of Ontario Shipyards' workforce in tackling complex ship repair scopes. This project signifies a significant milestone in revitalizing Ontario's shipbuilding and repair industry, thanks to the collaborative efforts of all involved.

NiagaraOpenData.ca relaunches to better serve Niagara's open data community

The Niagara Open Data Community Consortium celebrates the relaunch of NiagaraOpenData.ca, providing a centralized platform for accessing freely available data across the region, supporting transparency, accountability, and innovation. The updated catalogue offers enhanced features such as more detailed information about available data, visualization tools, and a new request system, aiming to improve users' understanding and utilization of open data resources. Open data in Niagara fosters data literacy, supports regional planning, economic development, and global application development, with the consortium continuously working to engage with users and enhance the open data community. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.

Niagara Falls purchases Sodom Road property for industrial park

The City of Niagara Falls has purchased 96 hectares (237 acres) of land on Sodom Road, aiming to develop an industrial park due to the depletion of available industrial lands in existing parks. The purchase, approved by council for \$6.5 million, reflects the City's strategy to attract major industrial developments and create well paying jobs, utilizing funds from the sale of the Niagara Regional Broadband Network. Additionally, the city is advocating for the designation of the QEW corridor as a provincially significant employment zone to further support long-term economic growth and diversification beyond tourism.

Niagara-on-the-Lake chamber president steps down

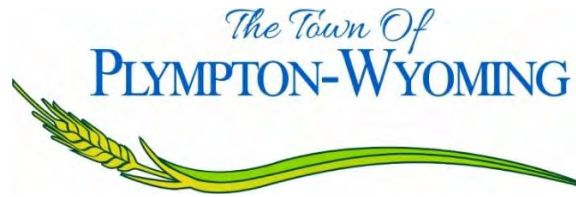
Minerva Ward, the president and CEO of NOTL Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Niagara-on-the-Lake, has stepped down from her role after two years of spearheading the post-COVID business recovery efforts in the area. The board has initiated a search for an interim replacement while praising Ward for her contributions, including a 32 per cent increase in chamber membership and notable recognitions of Niagara-on-the-Lake as a top travel destination. Ward's departure marks a shift in leadership, but the organization remains committed to its mission and strategic objectives during this transition period.

\$500 million hotel and condo planned for Vineland Station

Globizen, a Toronto-based developer, has proposed a significant redevelopment project for Victoria Avenue North in Vineland Station, including a 15 storey hotel, two condominium towers, retail spaces, and public amenities. The estimated \$500 million project aims to address the area's need for accommodations while enhancing tourism and economic development in Lincoln. While still in the early stages, the proposal is expected to undergo further modifications based on community feedback before proceeding to the next phases of approval and construction.

George Spezza, Ec.D., CEcD
Director, Economic Development

The economic development updates in this brief were compiled with input from economic development staff from Niagara's local area municipalities and public information sources.



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NO. 10

DATE: April 10th, 2024

MOVED BY: Netty McEwen

SECONDED BY: John van Klaveren

RE: SECURING ACCESS TO NATURAL GAS FOR OUR COMMUNITY AND ONTARIO

WHEREAS Access to natural gas is important to residents and businesses in our community for affordability and reliability.

WHEREAS The Ontario Energy Board's (OEB) decision on Phase 1 of the Enbridge Gas 2024 rebasing application, issued on 21 December 2023, has concerning implications including putting into question the future access to natural gas that support of economic development, affordable housing growth, and energy reliability in communities such as the Town of Plympton-Wyoming.

AND WHEREAS Ontario is growing and access to affordable energy to support this growth for homes and businesses is crucial, and is a measured approach to energy transition as not having access to natural gas will stifle economic growth and put housing and energy affordability at risk.

NOWTHEREBE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Town of Plympton-Wyoming supports a measured approach to Ontario's energy transition.

AND THAT the Town of Plympton-Wyoming recognizes that there may not be enough electricity available to replace the energy provided by natural gas and meet the increased demand from electrification.

2. THAT Natural gas must continue to play an integral role in meeting the energy needs of Ontario.

3. THAT the Town of Plympton-Wyoming supports the work the Government of Ontario has done to date, including the Natural Gas Expansion Program and Electrification and Energy Transition Panel's call for a clear policy on the role of natural gas to secure access to affordable energy.

4. THAT this resolution be circulated to the President of AMO, Colin Best, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Todd Smith, the Minister of Energy, Bob Bailey Member of Provincial Parliament for Sarnia-Lambton, all regional municipalities as significant actors to ensuring the need for natural gas in Ontario as part of a measured approach towards energy transition, and submitted to municipalaffairs@enbridge.com.

Mayor
Town of Plympton-Wyoming



Ministry of Municipal Affairs minister.mah@ontario.ca
Ministry of Finance Minister.fin@ontario.ca
Ontario Tax & Revenue Association webmaster@omtra.ca
Association of Municipalities Ontario resolutions@amo.on.ca
MPP Bob Bailey bob.baileyco@pc.ola.org
(sent via e-mail)

April 12th, 2024

Re: Municipalities Retaining Surplus from Tax Sales

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on April 10th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the Municipality of St. Charles regarding municipalities retaining surplus from tax sales.

Motion #13

Moved by Councillor Mike Vasey

Seconded by Councillor Bob Woolvett

That Council support correspondence item 'h' from the municipality of St. Charles regarding Support for Municipalities to Retain Surplus from Tax Sales.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All regional Municipalities

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 10.3.

Resolution Number 2023-151

Title: Resolution Stemming from May 17, 2023 Regular Meeting of Council (Item 9.1 - Correspondence #9 and 15) and from the June 21, 2023 Regular Meeting Council (Item 9.1 - Correspondence #19)

Date: July 19, 2023

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

WHEREAS prior to being repealed by the Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, 2017, Section 380(6) of the Municipal Act, 2001, allowed for a municipality to retain surplus proceeds from tax sales within their jurisdiction;

AND WHEREAS the current Public Tax Sale process is a burdensome process to a municipality that invests a considerable amount of time and money recovering these proceeds for the potential sole benefit of the Crown in Right of Ontario;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles supports the Corporation of the Town of Essex in the reinstatement of previous legislation that permitted municipalities to apply for and retain surplus proceeds from tax sales in their jurisdictions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution be circulated to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH); the Ministry of Finance (MOF); the Ontario Municipal Tax & Revenue Association (OMTRA); the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and, all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



April 11, 2024

Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
via Email:
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Re: Jurisdiction of Ontario's Ombudsman

The following resolution, adopted by City Council at their meeting on April 8, 2024, is forwarded for your information and necessary action.

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in [Report LSOCS24-005](#), dated April 2, 2024 of the Commissioner, Legislative Services, as follows:

- a) That the Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, be requested to introduce a Bill to amend the Ombudsman Act to require the Ontario Ombudsman to provide to each municipality, if requested by the municipality, sufficient particulars of each investigation, matter or case respecting the municipality that is referred to in each of the Ombudsman's Annual Reports to permit the municipality to fully understand and address the subject matter of each such investigation, matter or case including:
 - i) a copy of each complaint, as applicable, redacted only to the extent of individuals' personal information contained therein;
 - ii) the identities of the municipality's employees, officers and members of Council with whom the Ombudsman was consulting in respect of the investigation, matter or case; and
 - iii) particulars of the outcome of the investigation, matter or case including the Ombudsman's findings, conclusions and recommendations, if any.
- b) That the City Clerk forward Council's resolutions resulting from Council's approval of these recommendations to Minister Calandra, MPP David Smith, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and to the municipal Clerks of Ontario's municipalities.

Sincerely,

J. Kennedy

John Kennedy, City Clerk

cc: David Smith, MPP
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.2.

Resolution Number 2024-070

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #7, 28 and 30

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward on January 16, 2024, and the support Resolutions passed by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming on February 14, 2024, and by the Township of McMurrich / Monteith on February 6, 2024, regarding expanding the life span of fire apparatus;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades, David Piccini; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

January 22, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of January 16, 2024 the following motion regarding support for the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements was carried:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-46

DATE: January 16, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor Nieman

SECONDED BY: Councillor Branderhorst

WHEREAS By-Law 3256-2013, being a By-Law to Establish, Maintain, and Operate a Fire Department established service level standards for the Corporation of the County of Prince Edward Fire Department;

AND WHEREAS apparatus and equipment are directly tied to the delivery of fire protection services authorized by Council in By-Law 3256-2013, and a safe, reliable and diverse fleet is required to serve operational needs;

AND WHEREAS fire Apparatus is governed by industry best practices, the application of law and recognized industry partners, including the Ontario Fire Service Section 21 Guidance Notes, National Fire Protection Association Standards, The Occupational Health and Safety Act, and Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS);

AND WHEREAS Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a provider of data, underwriting, risk management and legal/regulatory services focusing on community fire-protection and fire prevention systems in Canada, establishing apparatus replacement schedules based on safety and risk mitigation practices;

AND WHEREAS on November 16, 2023, Council, received report FD-06-2023 regarding asset Management - Fire Apparatus Fleet Report and noted the budgetary pressures of meeting FUS replacement schedules;

AND WHEREAS no provincial funding is available for new fire trucks, yet, small and rural municipalities must meet the same standards set by FUS as larger municipalities for fire equipment, including additional pressure to move fire trucks out when they reach a specific age, even though they can still meet the safety regulations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of Prince Edward County direct the Mayor to draft a letter to MPP Minister Todd Smith requesting a meeting to discuss the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements; and

THAT the Mayor draft a letter to FUS requesting the creation of a new community fire-protection and fire prevention insurance system that does not put all municipalities under the same umbrella, with distinct categories for rural and urban municipalities;

THAT this resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford, the Honourable David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing requesting a response on this matter within 30 days of receipt; and

THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario, The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), The Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO), and The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC).

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor Nieman, Councillor Branderhorst, Marcia Wallace, CAO and Fire Chief Chad Brown



The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca
(sent via e-mail)

February 15th, 2024

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Motion #11

Moved by Councillor Bob Woolvett
Seconded by Councillor Kristen Rodrigues
That Council support correspondence item 'r' from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
The Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus
All Ontario Municipalities



TOWNSHIP OF McMURRICH / MONTEITH

District of Parry Sound
P.O. Box 70 31 William Street
Sprucedale, Ontario P0A 1Y0
Phone 705-685-7901 Fax 705-685-7393
www.mcmurrichmonteith.com E-Mail: clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

February 16, 2024

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

Re: Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus

Please be advised that the Council of the Township of McMurrich/Monteith, at its meeting on February 6th, 2024, pass the following motion supporting the resolution from Prince Edward County regarding Expanding the Life of Fire Apparatus.

Resolution #2024-53

Moved by: Vicky Roeder-Martin

Seconded by: Terry Currie

Be It Resolved that Council supports resolution 2024-46 from the County of Prince Edward relating to a request to the Province to expand the life span of fire apparatus, specifically pertaining to the replacement of fire trucks due to insurance requirements. Carried

If you have any questions regarding the above resolution, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at clerk@mcmurrichmonteith.com

Yours truly,

Cheryl Marshall
Clerk-Treasurer

cc. Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Paul Calandra
Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development – David Piccini
Federation of Canadian Municipalities
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



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

Office of the Town Clerk

160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby, ON L3M 0J5

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

Email: vsteele@grimsby.ca

April 16, 2024

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Honourable Arif Virani
Minister of Justice & Attorney General
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Virani,

RE: Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Grimsby at its meeting held on April 2, 2024, passed the following resolution:

Moved: Councillor Charrois

Seconded: Councillor Korstanje

Resolved that Council support the Township of Clearview's resolution regarding the endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons.

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

Regards,

Victoria Steele
Town Clerk

CC: Township of Clearview
Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Dean Allison, MP Niagara West
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities



CLEARVIEW
TOWNSHIP

Clerk's Department

Township of Clearview

Box 200, 217 Gideon Street

Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0

clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca

Phone: 705-428-6230

March 27, 2024

Honourable Arif Virani
Minister of Justice & Attorney General
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Sent by Email

RE: Township of Clearview Endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview at its meeting held on March 25, 2024, passed the following resolution in support of the endorsement of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons:

Moved by Councillor Dineen, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas The Canadian Federal Government has drafted Bill C-63, The Online Harms Act, currently in front of Parliament and has had its first reading; and,

Whereas Bill C-63 requires that online tech companies and social media platforms remove child pornography and other dangerous content within 24 hours once the operator identifies the content, while also mandating the following duties:

- Duty to protect children;
- Duty to act responsibly;
- Duty to remove egregious content; and,

Whereas The Canadian Federal Government proposes to establish a "Digital Safety Commission" and nominate an "independent" Ombudsperson to proactively circumvent potential harms on behalf of Canadians; and,

Whereas online tech companies and social media platforms need to adhere to existing Criminal Laws; and,

Whereas online tech companies and social media platforms need to be held accountable to keep platforms safe from predators targeting children and other vulnerable Canadians and to protect them from bullying, hate, extremism, violence, discrimination, self harm, exploitation and sexual extortion that can lead to the most dire of consequences; and,

Whereas Clearview Township, as all Canadians, endeavours to foster safe homes, communities, schools and public spaces;

Be It Resolved That the Mayor and Council of Clearview Township endorse the passing of Bill C-63 in the House of Commons and the establishment of a “digital safety commission” and nomination of an “independent” Ombudsperson; and,

That a copy of this resolution be circulated to all municipalities in Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Terry Dowdall, MP; The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada and The Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada. Motion Carried.

Sincerely,



Sasha Helmkey-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC

Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Right Honourable Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
Simcoe Grey MP Terry Dowdall
Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.3.

Resolution Number 2024-071

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #8

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Pothier

Seconded by: Councillor Laframboise

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts on January 18, 2024, regarding household food insecurity;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsaco; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Sylvia Jones; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

January 24, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Dear Recipient:

Re: Household Food Insecurity

At its meeting on January 18, 2024, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #06-24:

WHEREAS food security is a chronic and worsening health issue as documented by annual local data on food affordability and as recognized by multiple Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) resolutions: [A05-18](#) (Adequate Nutrition for Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program), [A18-02](#) (Minimum Wage that is a Living Wage), [A15-04](#) (Basic Income Guarantee), and [A23-05](#) (Monitoring Food Affordability in Ontario and the Inadequacy of Social Assistance Rates)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts call on the provincial government to incorporate local food affordability findings in determining adequacy of social assistance rates to reflect the current costs of living and to index Ontario Works rates to inflation going forward; and

THAT in the context of the Public Health Strengthening roles and responsibilities deliberations, the Board of Health urge all health system partners to remain committed to population health assessment and surveillance as it relates to monitoring food environments and, specifically, to monitoring food affordability; and share this motion broadly with local and provincial stakeholders.

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON P0M 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



Household food insecurity is one of the strongest predictors of poor health, making it a serious public health issue (PROOF, 2023). Individuals who are food insecure are at higher risk of diet-related diseases like diabetes and are at higher risk for a wide range of chronic conditions such as depression and anxiety disorders, arthritis, and chronic pain. Household food insecurity leaves an indelible mark on children's health and well-being (PROOF, 2023). The experience of food insecurity in childhood is associated with mental health concerns throughout childhood and into early adulthood (PROOF, 2023). In Ontario, the healthcare costs of individuals who are the most food insecure can be more than double that of individuals who are food secure (PROOF, 2023, Tarasuk et al., 2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important issue – the solutions for which will not only help many Ontarians in need but also protect the sustainability of our critical health and social services resources.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Honourable Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
Honourable Peter Bthlenfalvy, Ministry of Finance
Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
France G linas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Jacqueline Edwards and Jennifer Babin-Fenske, Co-chairs, Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council
Richard Lathwell, Local Food Manitoulin
Colleen Hill, Executive Director, Manitoulin Family Resources
All Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Letter
Re: Household Food Insecurity
January 24, 2024
Page 2

PROOF (2023). What are the implications of food insecurity for health and health care? Identifying Policy Options to Reduce Household Food Insecurity in Canada. Retrieved from:
<https://proof.utoronto.ca/food-insecurity/what-are-the-implications-of-food-insecurity-for-health-andhealth-care/>

Tarasuk, V., Cheng, J., de Oliveira, C., Dachner, N., Gundersen, C., Kurdyak, P. (2015). Association between household food insecurity and annual healthcare costs. Canadian Medical Association Journal. 1 87 (14) E429-E436. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1503/cmaj.150234>

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.4.

Resolution Number 2024-072

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #10 and 20

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Loftus

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

WHEREAS current provincial - municipal fiscal arrangements are undermining Ontario's economic prosperity and quality of life;

AND WHEREAS nearly a third of municipal spending in Ontario is for services in areas of provincial responsibility and expenditures are outpacing provincial contributions by nearly \$4 Billion a year;

AND WHEREAS municipal revenues, such as property taxes, do not grow with the economy or inflation;

AND WHEREAS unprecedented population and housing growth will require significant investments in municipal infrastructure;

AND WHEREAS municipalities are being asked to take on complex health and social challenges – like homelessness, supporting asylum seekers and addressing the mental health and addictions crises;

AND WHEREAS inflation, rising interest rates, and provincial policy decisions are sharply constraining municipal fiscal capacity;

AND WHEREAS property taxpayers – including people on fixed incomes and small businesses – can not afford to subsidize income re-distribution programs for those most in need;

AND WHEREAS the province can, and should, invest more in the prosperity of communities;

AND WHEREAS municipalities and the provincial government have a strong history of collaboration; **BE**

IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles requests that the Province of Ontario commit to undertaking with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario a comprehensive social and economic prosperity review to promote the stability and sustainability of municipal finances across Ontario;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Finance, Peter Bethlenfalvy; Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Paul Calandra; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.5.

Resolution Number 2024-073

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #16

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Lachance

Seconded by: Councillor Loftus

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin on January 30, 2024, regarding provincial and national fire fighting strategy;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau; Minister of National Defence, Bill Blair; Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Graydon Smith; Minister of Economic Development, Vic Fidei; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



Corporation of the Municipality of Calvin

Council Resolution

Date: January 30, 2024

Resolution Number: 2024-31

Moved By: Councillor Moreton

Seconded By: Councillor Manson

Background: Before Calvin township became a township, it was burned by numerous forest fires. This was before the time of fire towers, water bombers, and municipal fire departments. A 1881 report from Lawrence Tallan, Provincial Land surveyor, states: *"The township of Calvin has been traversed by repeated and severe fires – so well have the flames done their work that with the exception of an insignificant portion, scarcely a vestige of the original timber remains."*

History has a way of repeating itself, and now rural municipalities and remote areas need more than ever to be prepared to respond to forest fires. Invasive pests like the emerald ash borer and the spruce bud worm are killing large numbers of trees, leaving copious amounts of dry kindling in our forests just waiting for a careless human or a lightning strike. Our forests are choked with deadfall and forest fires are becoming increasingly difficult to control. Add to this the effects of rising temperatures and drier seasons, or climate change, and we could be facing increasingly disastrous forest fires. This is not the time to be caught short with limited forest fire-fighting resources.

Jordan Omstead of the Canadian Press recently wrote: "But as Canada's water bombers age – and wildfire seasons are expected to intensify – some wildland

firefighters and emergency preparedness experts say the country needs to prop up its fleet of firefighting aircraft, even though several provinces are playing down concerns about capacity.” He quotes Eric Davidson, president of the Ontario Professional Association of Wildland Firefighters, “We’re really starting to see the effect of the aging fleet.”

The article further states the John Gradek, lecturer at McGill University estimates that almost half of the larger water bombers used to fight Canadian forest fires are nearing the end of their service life.

However, a Canadian company making a large skimmer-style water bomber is backed up with orders from European countries until the end of the decade.

Ontario has its own fleet of aircraft. They have 20 fixed-wing aircraft which includes 9 CL215 and CL415 water bombers that are 24 years old on average. The remaining 11 aircraft are an average of 54 years old. Melissa Candelaria, a spokesperson for Minister Graydon Smith says the MNR can handle Ontario fires with these aircraft, but Jennifer Kamau, communications manager for the Canada Interagency Forest Fire Centre, CIFFC, noted that other provinces contract out firebombers and last year there was a strain in Canada to get the resources to areas in need because there were so many fires across the country at the same time and very few aircraft available.

Peter Zimonjic of the CBC quoted the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs (CAFC) President Ken McMullen, “It's not often that the fire chiefs sound the alarm. We are very concerned about this impending crisis that the summer of 2024 and beyond is going to bring our sector.”

In 2023 we all smelled the smoke and saw the sky turn brown. Buildings can be replaced, but lives cannot. And once an area is burned it takes more than a lifetime for it to return to its original state.

WHEREAS Forest fires are a very real threat to rural municipalities.

AND WHEREAS smoke from forest fires put people's health at risk. This is especially true of children and the elderly. The David Suzuki Foundation reports that wildfires kill many thousands of people per year and most of the deaths are from smoke inhalation.

AND WHEREAS forest fires are a very real danger to the climate and according to The Guardian, in 2023 they emitted three times as much carbon as the entire carbon footprint of Canada.

AND WHEREAS according to the John Crace interview in The Guardian with William Kurz, a retired scientist with Natural Resources Canada, around two billion tonnes of carbon have been released into the atmosphere from forest fires in 2023.

AND WHEREAS carbon emissions from forest fires are not counted against Canada's Paris agreement commitments, according to Kurz, but they far exceeded all of the emissions tied to Canada's economy (670 mega tonnes, or 0.67 billion tonnes, according to Environment and Climate Change Canada).

AND WHEREAS that standing healthy forest serves as a carbon sink, drawing in carbon, but once destroyed by fire, even though second growth takes its place, it is much less effective for many decades.

AND WHEREAS the federal government owns no water bombers and assists the provinces through the CIFFC, Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre, a spokesperson with CIFFC says that last year there were too many requests and not enough inventory to meet the needs of the country.

AND WHEREAS as reported by De Havilland Canada who manufacture the Canadian made water bomber, they have contracts with European countries for the next 22 of its new DHC-515 planes, which will take until 2029 or 2030 to complete and there will be very little production available to replace the aging water bombers in Ontario and the rest of Canada.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the council of the Corporation of Calvin Township urges and encourages the Federal Government to commit additional funds for cost sharing of provincial firefighting and to consider the development of a national strategy of firefighting. Furthermore, we urge the federal government to consider the measures necessary for acquiring a national fleet of Canadian-made waterbombers, with home bases strategically located to best serve and respond to the needs of rural communities, and a national fire administration to better coordinate and manage efforts across the country. We also encourage the introduction of a program similar to the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program (JEPP) which was ended in 2013.

And we encourage Minister Graydon Smith to step up the on-the-ground firefighting capability and water bomber acquisitions in Ontario.

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Bill Blair, Minister of National Defence, The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Graydon Smith, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry of Ontario, The Honourable Vic Fideli, Minister of Economic Development Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FMC) and the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO).

AND THAT this resolution be shared with all 444 municipalities in Ontario for their consideration and adoption.

Results: Carried

Recorded Vote:

<u>Member of Council</u>	<u>In Favour</u>	<u>Opposed</u>
Mayor Gould	☐	☐
Councillor Moreton	☐	☐
Councillor Latimer	☐	☐
Councillor Grant	☐	☐
Councillor Manson	☐	☐

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.6.

Resolution Number 2024-074

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #23

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Laframboise

Seconded by: Councillor Pothier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the City of Cambridge on February 13, 2024, regarding catch and release justice;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau; Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Arif Virani; Attorney General of Ontario, Doug Downey; Ontario Solicitor General, Michael Kerner; Premier Doug Ford; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge
Corporate Services Department
Clerk's Division
Tel: (519) 740-4680 ext. 4585
mantond@cambridge.ca

February 14, 2024

Re: Catch and Release

At its Council Meeting of February 13, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Cambridge passed the following Motion:

WHEREAS this council believes that the safety of our community and its protection from crime in all its forms is of utmost importance.

WHEREAS our taxpayer-funded judicial system exists to protect the public, who in return for their tax dollars are entitled to a system that works.

WHEREAS the number of charges laid for failure to comply with court orders – primarily failure to comply with the terms of a promise to appear, undertaking, recognizance, probation order, or peace bond – are steadily on the rise in the province of Ontario.

WHEREAS there has been a notable increase in the number of violent offences committed in the province of Ontario by individuals who are concurrently subject to release orders.

WHEREAS the Ontario justice system is backlogged, court systems under strain, and police and prosecutors overwhelmed by their caseloads.

WHEREAS we have seen a dramatic lowering of the threshold for release, resulting in violent, serious, or repeat offenders who should by rights have been reasonably detained in custody, released on supervision plans that are increasingly deficient.

WHEREAS the general sense among the criminal population is that breaching bail conditions will not result in much by way of consequence for the offender, as evidenced by a clear pattern province-wide of unjustifiable release, a pattern which is bound to continue given insufficient resources to conduct Crown bail reviews, surety bond estreatment hearings, and ensure the subsequent collection of surety bond funds after judgment.

WHEREAS a 'catch and release' system constitutes a failure of government to perform a core function of its existence, that being the protection of public safety and that this failure constitutes a clear and present danger to the public.

WHEREAS the current hard drug crisis has contributed to a desperate criminal element that is exacting a significant financial and emotional toll on communities across Canada including Cambridge.

WHEREAS our police services are being demoralized by expending precious time and resources having to manage the repeated arrests of these habitual criminal offenders within a system that limits their ability to effectively protect the public.

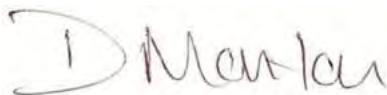
AND WHEREAS this ineffective follow-through by our judicial system unfairly erodes the public's trust in our police services, who consequently become the target of frustrated and angry residents who feel they are no longer being protected from crime.

AND WHEREAS the increasing erosion of public faith and trust in our judicial system ultimately brings the administration of justice in the province of Ontario into disrepute and leads to a growing feeling amongst residents that they are no longer protected by a system perceived to prioritize the rights and freedoms of the criminal over the rights and safety of themselves and their families.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Clerk for the City of Cambridge send a letter to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Arif Virani, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, the Honourable Doug Ford Premier of Ontario, MP Bryan May, MP Valerie Bradford, MPP Jess Dixon, MPP Bryan Riddell, Police Chief Mark Crowell, Waterloo Regional Police Service, all Ontario Police Associations and Police Departments, Ontario Provincial Police, all Ontario MPPs and MPs, and all municipalities throughout Ontario for their endorsement consideration, requesting additional funding in Ontario's legal system to support a meaningful resistance to the current "catch and release" practice, including hiring sufficient court staff, with a specific focus on additional assistant Crown Attorneys.

Should you have any questions related to the approved resolution, please contact me.

Yours Truly,



Danielle Manton
City Clerk

Cc: (via email)
Hon. Prime Minister Trudeau
Hon. Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada
Attorney General of Ontario
Ontario Solicitor General
Hon. Premier Ford
Ontario Police Associations
Ontario Police Departments
Ontario MPPs and MPs
All Ontario Municipalities

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.7.

Resolution Number 2024-075

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #24

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Pothier

Seconded by: Councillor Lachance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the Township of Coleman on November 20, 2023; and the support resolution passed by the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands on January 23, 2024, regarding Conservation Officer reclassification;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Premier Doug Ford; Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, Graydon Smith; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



February 14th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

ATTENTION: Premier of Ontario

Dear Premier Ford:

RE: Resolution – Conservation Officer Reclassification

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held January 23rd, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Roberts

Seconded by Councillor Summers

THAT, Council supports the resolution from Coleman Township regarding Conservation Officer Reclassification;

AND THAT, this resolution of support be circulated to the Premiere of Ontario, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, local Members of Parliament and all Ontario Municipalities.

Resolved

Sincerely,

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. Minister of Natural Resources, Graydon Smith
Local MP's and MPP's
Association of Municipalities
All Ontario Municipalities

**Resolution
Regular Council Meeting**



Agenda Number: 9.4.
Resolution Number 23-371
Title: 23-R-49 Letter of Support - Conservation Officer Reclassification
Date: Monday, November 20, 2023

Seconded by: M. Lubbock

Moved by: S. Cote

WHEREAS Ontario has 196 field Conservation Officers including 6 canine handlers who provide protection to Municipalities Natural Resources and uphold public safety by enforcing hunting and firearm laws and investigate gruesome injuries and even deaths that result from hunting-related accidents; in addition, Conservation Officers are often First Responders and ensure public safety by facilitating evacuations and enforcing Emergency Area orders during forest fires during record breaking wildfires such as we witnessed this past summer; and

WHEREAS Conservation Officers perform comparable work to Police Officers and other Enforcement Officers within the province and are professional, armed Peace Officers trained to police standards and undergo the same training; and

WHEREAS Ontario Municipalities are required that their constituents are informed, and their interests are safeguarded and ensure they have access to outreach and natural resources compliance services; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Coleman does here by support the Ontario Conservation Officer's Association (OCA) in their efforts to have Conservation Officers in the Province of Ontario reclassified as Enforcement Officers and be compensated fairly; and

FURTHER request the support of all Ontario Municipalities; and

FURTHERMORE, THAT this resolution with a letter of support be forwarded to Ontario Premiere Doug Ford, the Minister of Natural Resources Graydon Smith, the Local Provincial Member of Parliament (MPP) John Vanthof, Temiskaming Municipal Association and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 0

S. Cote

M. Lubbock

P. Rieux

L. Perry

Certified True Copy

Christopher W. Oslund
CAO/Clerk - Treasurer

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



Regular Meeting of Council

Agenda Number: 8.8.

Resolution Number 2024-076

Title: Resolution stemming from February 21, 2024 Regular Meeting of Council - Item 10.1 - Correspondence #27

Date: March 20, 2024

Moved by: Councillor Pothier

Seconded by: Councillor Loftus

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles hereby supports the Resolution passed by the Corporation of the City of Sarnia on January 15, 2024; and the support resolution passed by the Corporation of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming on February 14, 2024, regarding Carbon Tax;

AND BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau; Premier Doug Ford; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); our local Member of Parliament (MP); our local Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP); and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED


MAYOR



The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca
(sent via e-mail)

February 15th, 2024

Re: Carbon Tax

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Plympton-Wyoming, at its meeting on February 14th, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

Motion #12

Moved by Councillor John van Klaveren

Seconded by Councillor Mike Vasey

That Council support correspondence item 'o' from the City of Sarnia regarding Carbon Tax.

Carried.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at eflynn@plympton-wyoming.ca.

Sincerely,

Ella Flynn
Executive Assistant – Deputy Clerk
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All Ontario municipalities



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA
City Clerk's Department

255 Christina Street N. PO Box 3018
Sarnia ON Canada N7T 7N2
519-332-0330 (phone) 519-332-3995 (fax)
519-332-2664 (TTY)
www.sarnia.ca clerks@sarnia.ca

January 19, 2024

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2
Justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Carbon Tax

At its meeting held on January 15, 2024, Sarnia City Council adopted the following resolution:

Whereas the federal government recently increased the carbon tax in April 2023 and will almost triple it by 2030; and

Whereas the Parliamentary Budget officer has admitted that when fiscal and economic impacts of the federal fuel charge are considered that the vast majority of households will see a staggering loss; and

Whereas this tax flows through from producers to transporters to the grocery store floor for our citizens; and

Whereas this tax does very little to reduce pollution and emissions; and

Whereas two thirds of Canadians are approximately \$200 away or less from not being able to pay all their bills at the end of the month; and

Therefore, be it resolved that Sarnia City Council write a Letter to the Federal government (and copied to other Municipalities for their consideration) strongly urging them to cancel the carbon tax which is financially hurting our citizens at a time

when affordability concerns are at an all-time high to ease the financial and inflationary pressure on our Citizens.

Your consideration of this request is respectfully requested.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'AB', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amy Burkhart
City Clerk

cc: All Ontario Municipalities

April 16, 2024

Conservation Authorities and
Natural Hazards Section
Ministry of Natural Resources and
Forestry – RPDPB
By E-mail: ca.office@ontario.ca

Matthew Rae
MPP for Perth-Wellington
By E-mail: matthew.rae@pc.ola.org

RE: Conservation Authorities Act

Please note that in response to the attached Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's proposal "Regulation detailing new Minister's Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act" on April 5, 2024, Council of the Municipality of West Perth at its Regular Council Meeting held on April 15, 2024, passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: 122/24

Moved By: Councillor Trentowsky

Seconded by: Councillor Duck

CARRIED

"That the Council for the Municipality of West Perth recommends to the province that any proposed changes contemplated by the province be put on hold until such time that the planning statement is finalized by the province and communicated to the municipalities and that this motion be circulated to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) All Ontario Municipalities for support."

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk's Department.



Daniel Hobson
Manager of Legislative Services/Clerk
Municipality of West Perth

cc: Matthew Rae, MPP for Perth-Wellington
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
All Ontario Municipalities

Regulation detailing new Minister’s Permit and Review powers under the Conservation Authorities Act.

ERO.(Environmental Registry.of.Ontario) number	019-8320
Notice type	Regulation
Act	Conservation Authorities Act, R.S.O. 1990
Posted by	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Notice stage	Proposal
Proposal posted	April 5, 2024
Comment period	April 5, 2024 - May 6, 2024 (31 days) Open
Last updated	April 5, 2024

This consultation closes at 11:59 p.m. on:
May 6, 2024

Proposal summary

We are proposing a regulation specifying the circumstances under which the Minister may issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and make the permitting decision in the place of a conservation authority or may undertake a review of a conservation authority permitting decision.

Proposal details

Conservation authorities regulate development and other activities through a permitting process under the *Conservation Authorities Act* for the purposes of natural hazard management and to protect people and property from natural hazards, such as flooding and erosion. Each conservation authority implements the permitting framework based on provincial legislation, regulatory

requirements, and technical standards, as well as conservation authority board-approved policies that outline how the conservation authority administers regulations locally.

Recently proclaimed provisions in the *Conservation Authorities Act* and associated regulations came into effect on April 1, 2024, including new powers for the Minister to 1) issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from issuing a permit and to take over the permitting process in the place of a conservation authority, and 2) review a conservation authority permit decision at the request of the applicant.

The Ministry is proposing a regulation which would set out the circumstances under which these powers could be used. If the regulation is approved, public guidance would be made available on the criteria and processes outlined in the regulation.

1. **Permits issued by the Minister**

Existing requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* regarding permits issued by the Minister under section 28.1.1 include:

- The Minister may issue an order directing a conservation authority not to issue a permit to a specific individual to engage in a specified activity, or to persons who may wish to engage in a certain type or class of activity, that would be prohibited under section 28 without a permit.
- The Minister's decision to issue an order is discretionary, and it may be issued either before or after an application for a permit has been submitted to the relevant conservation authority.
- Notice of any order must be provided to affected conservation authorities, any person who applied for the permit in question prior to the order and be posted on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario)) within 30-days.
- If an order made, the Minister has the power to issue a permit in place of the conservation authority. When making a permitting decision, the Minister is required to satisfy the same criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities. This includes whether the activity is likely to affect the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or

bedrock. It also must consider whether the activity is likely to create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard, might jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction of property.

- The Minister may refuse the permit or issue a permit subject to such conditions as the Minister determines are appropriate.

Proposed additional requirements that would be set out in regulation include:

- The Minister may make an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and take over the permitting process only if the development activity or type or class of permits pertains to or supports a specified provincial interest, including:
 - Housing (community, affordable and market-based)
 - Community services (health, long-term care, education, recreation socio-cultural, security and safety, environment)
 - Transportation infrastructure
 - Buildings that facilitate economic development or employment
 - Mixed use developments
- If a proponent wishes to petition the Minister to issue an order, the proponent must submit a request to the Minister that would include information on:
 - Overview of proposed development.
 - Why the Minister's involvement is requested (e.g., development of provincial interest, timing/urgency; permitting process to date if applicable; other barriers) and preferable to the standard process in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
 - Indication of whether the local municipality has endorsed the project and the request for Minister's involvement (e.g., by municipal letter or resolution).
 - Status of other required project approvals including the extent of any engagement with the conservation authority in the permitting process that the applicant has had to date.

2. Permits reviewed by the Minister

Existing requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* relating to requests for review under section 28.1.2 regarding permits where there is an order made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under section 34.1 or 47 of the *Planning Act* and section 28.1 regarding all other conservation authority permits include:

- An applicant who has been refused a permit or had conditions attached to a permit by a conservation authority to which the applicant objects can, within 15-days of receiving reasons for the authority's decision, submit a request to the Minister for the Minister to review the authority's decision. Alternatively, an applicant also has the option to appeal the authority's decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.
- After receiving a request, the Minister has 30-days in which to decide whether or not they intend to conduct a review. If the Minister decides to conduct the review, a notice shall be posted on the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) within 30-days of a reply indicating the Minister intends to review the decision by the authority. If the Minister does not reply within 30-days of the request, this is deemed to indicate that the Minister does not intend to conduct a review.
- After conducting a review, the Minister may confirm or vary the authority's decision or make any decision that the Minister considers appropriate, including issuing the permit subject to conditions.
- The Minister is required to base the decision on same criteria concerning natural hazards and public safety that are considered by conservation authorities. This includes whether the activity is likely to affect the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or bedrock. It also must consider whether the activity is likely to create conditions or circumstances that, in the event of a natural hazard, might jeopardize the health or safety of persons or result in the damage or destruction of property.

Proposed additional requirements that would be set out in regulation include:

- The Minister may conduct a review of a conservation authority permit decision only if the development activity pertains to or supports a development of specified provincial interest, including:
 - Housing (community, affordable and market-based)

- Community services (health, long-term care, education, recreation socio-cultural, security and safety, environment)
- Transportation infrastructure
- Buildings that facilitate economic development or employment
- Mixed use developments

Note: This criteria would not apply to permit reviews under section 28.1.2 regarding permits where there is an order made by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing under section 34.1 or 47 of the *Planning Act*.

- The request submitted to the Minister for a review would include information on:
 - Overview of proposed development.
 - If the request relates to conditions imposed by the conservation authority to which the applicant objects, identification of the specific conditions that are subject to the request for review, the changes requested to the conditions and the rationale in support of the requested changes.
 - If the request relates to an authority's decision to refuse a permit, the rationale in support of requesting that the Minister varies the decision and issues the permit.
 - Why the Minister's involvement is requested (e.g., development of provincial interest, timing/urgency; permitting process to date; other barriers) and preferable to alternative mechanisms in the *Conservation Authorities Act*.
 - Indication of whether the local municipality has endorsed the project and/or the request for Minister's involvement (e.g., by municipal letter or resolution).
 - Status of other required project approvals.

Regulatory impact analysis

By clearly communicating the circumstances under which the Minister would consider whether to issue an order to prevent a conservation authority from making a permitting decision and to make permitting decisions in place of a conservation authority or to review a conservation authority permitting decision, this proposal would ensure that development proponents pursue the appropriate permitting channel. Efficiently navigating the permitting process is

expected to help save proponents time and resources. We expect that there will be some minor administrative costs for development proponents based on the time needed to learn about and understand the proposed changes.

Supporting materials

Related links

Conservation Authorities Act

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/90c27#BK43>)

O. Reg. 41/24: Prohibited Activities, Exemptions and Permits

(<https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/240041>)

View materials in person

Some supporting materials may not be available online. If this is the case, you can request to view the materials in person.

Get in touch with the office listed below to find out if materials are available.

MNRF - RPD PB - Resources Development Section
300 Water Street
2nd Floor South
Peterborough, ON
K9J 3C7
Canada

Comment

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

Have questions? Get in touch with the contact person below. Please include the ERO (Environmental Registry of Ontario) number for this notice in your email or letter to the contact.

[Read our commenting and privacy policies. \(/page/commenting-privacy\)](#)

Submit by mail

Conservation Authorities and
Natural Hazards Section

Ministry of Natural Resources and
Forestry - RPDPB

300 Water Street

2nd Floor South Tower

Peterborough, ON

K9J 3C7

Canada

Connect with US

Contact

Conservation Authorities and
Natural Hazards Section



ca.office@ontario.ca



April 17th, 2024

Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Ministry of Legislative Affairs
Main Legislative Building
Room 223
111 Wellesley St. W
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Ben Lobb, MP
30 Victoria Street
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 2R6

ATTENTION: Hon. Doug Ford, Hon. Paul Calandra, & MP Ben Lobb

Dear Premier Ford, Hon. Paul Calandra, & MP Benn Lobb:

RE: Resolution – Return to combined ROMA and OGRA Conferences

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lanark Highlands passed the following resolution at their regular meeting held March 26th, 2024:

Moved by Councillor Kelso

Seconded by Councillor Closs

THAT, the Council of the Township of Lanark Highlands supports the resolution from the Town of Goderich regarding the return to combined ROMA and OGRA conferences;

AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister Paul Calandra, MP Ben Lobb and be circulated to the Mayor of Mississippi Mills as the Zone 8 Representative on the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) board of directors, and the Municipalities of Ontario.

Resolved



Sincerely,

Amanda Noël

Amanda Noël,
Clerk/Acting CAO

Encls.

c.c. Christa Lowry, Mayor of Mississippi Mills & Zone 8 Representative on the Rural
Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) board of directors
All Ontario Municipalities



Office of the Warden, C.A.O. & Clerk
Hastings County

235 Pinnacle St. Postal Bag 4400,
Belleville ON K8N 3A9

Tel: (613) 966-1311

Fax: (613) 966-2574

www.hastingscounty.com

April 17, 2024

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

Delivered via email

doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

premier@ontario.ca

RE: Hastings County Motion regarding sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities

Please be advised that Hastings County Council, at its meeting held on March 28, 2024, passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS Ontario's small rural municipalities face insurmountable challenges to fund both upfront investments and ongoing maintenance of their capital assets including roads and bridges and water wastewater and municipally owned buildings including recreational facilities and libraries;

WHEREAS in 2018, the Ontario government mandated all Ontario municipalities to develop capital asset management plans with the stipulation that they be considered in the development of the annual budget;

WHEREAS small rural municipalities (of 10,000 people or less) are facing monumental infrastructure deficits that cannot be adequately addressed through property tax revenue alone;

WHEREAS the only application approved through the recently awarded Housing Accelerator Fund to a small rural municipality was to Marathon Ontario, who received an allocation of \$1.9 million dollars while over \$1.369 billion going to Ontario's large urban centres, resulting in a 0.2% investment in rural Ontario;

WHEREAS the Ontario Government has committed \$9.1 billion to Toronto alone to assist with operating deficits and the repatriation of the Don Valley and Gardner Expressway;

WHEREAS small rural Ontario cannot keep pace with the capital investments required over the next 20 years unless both the Provincial and Federal Governments come forward with new sustainable infrastructure funding;

WHEREAS it is apparent that both the Federal and Ontario Governments have neglected to recognize the needs of small rural Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Hastings County call on the Ontario and Federal Government to implement sustainable infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities;

AND THAT small rural municipalities are not overlooked and disregarded on future applications for funding;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments begin by acknowledging that there is an insurmountable debt facing small rural municipalities;

AND THAT both the Federal and Ontario Governments immediately commission a Working Group that includes a member of the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, to develop a plan on how to deal with the impending debt dilemma;

AND FINALLY THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, The Honourable Sean Fraser, Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada; Michel Tremblay Acting President and CEO, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation; The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; The Honourable Kinga Surma, Ontario Minister of Infrastructure; The Honourable Paul Calandra, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MP Shelby Kramp-Neuman, Hastings-Lennox Addington; MPP Ric Bresee Hastings-Lennox Addington, AMO, ROMA, FCM, Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus and all Municipalities in Ontario.

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Cathy Bradley
Director of Legislative Services

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- [May 8, 2024](#)
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Dates:

- [May 29, 2024](#)
- [September 25, 2024](#)
- **Session 3:**

Budget and strategic planning are a great internal exercise but if your constituents and community members don't really understand what you are doing, why you are doing it and how priorities are identified and planned for, well, we all understand what the fallout can look like. This session explores the importance of and options to community engagement and how your leadership in this area is the key ingredient to meaningful and impactful local engagement.

Dates:

- [October 2, 2024](#)
- [November 20, 2024](#)

If you have questions please reach out to events@amo.on.ca

Inquires: events@amo.on.ca

*Disclaimer: The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) is unable to provide any warranty regarding the accuracy or completeness of third-party submissions. Distribution of these items does not imply an endorsement of the views, information or services mentioned.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

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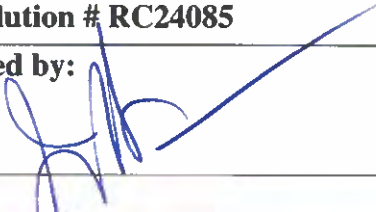
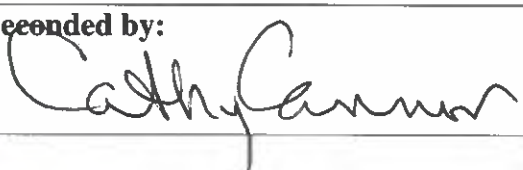


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Resolution # RC24085	Meeting Order: 8
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that the Municipality of Wawa supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT, the Municipality of Wawa calls on the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

AND FINALLY RESOLVED THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, MPP John Yakabuski, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and all Ontario Municipalities.”

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE	
☐ CARRIED		MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES NO
☐ DEFEATED		Mitch Hatfield	
☐ TABLED		Cathy Cannon	
☐ RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)		Melanie Pilon	
☐ PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED		Jim Hoffmann	
☐ WITHDRAWN		Joseph Opato	

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR – MELANIE PILON	CLERK – MAURY O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.



Council Resolution Form

Date: 21 Mar 2024 No: Resolution No.63-24
Moved By: Councillor Tripp Disposition: CARRIED.
Seconded by Councillor Popkie
Item No: 12.3

Description: Funding for the 2024 Municipal Equipment Operator Course

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, municipal public works departments from across the Province of Ontario provide invaluable services to our communities ensuring the health and safety of all residents;

AND WHEREAS, if it was not for our municipal public works employees from across the Province of Ontario maintaining our public roads systems, our communities would not be able to function as emergency personnel could not respond to calls, school buses could not get our children to school, residents would not be able to get to work, school or appointments and many more basic functions would not be able to happen;

AND WHEREAS, municipal public works departments are already feeling the impacts of a labour shortage, which will only be exasperated over the next three to five years, which will cause levels of service municipalities are able to provide to ensure the health and safety of our residents to decrease;

AND WHEREAS, there is currently no provincial-wide course that properly trains potential municipal public works employees, specifically relating to municipal heavy equipment.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, that the Township of Greater Madawaska supports the work of the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors to develop a Municipal Equipment Operator Course to address this issue;

Recorded Vote Requested by:

.....n/a.....

	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	_____	_____
T. Popkie	_____	_____
L. Thomson	_____	_____
R. Tripp	_____	_____
R. Weir	_____	_____

Page 1 of 2

MAYOR

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest:

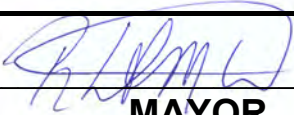
.....n/a.....

Disclosed his/her/their interest(s), vacated he/her/their seat(s),
abstained from discussion and did not vote

AND THAT, the Township of Greater Madawaska calls on the Province of Ontario’s Ministry of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades to fully fund the Municipal Equipment Operator Course in 2024 through the Skills Development Fund;

AND THAT, a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Labour, Training, Immigration and Skilled Trades David Piccini, MPP John Yakabuski, the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors, and all Ontario Municipalities.

Recorded Vote Requested by:		
.....n/a.....		
	Yea	Nay
J. Levesque	_____	_____
T. Popkie	_____	_____
L. Thomson	_____	_____
R. Tripp	_____	_____
R. Weir	_____	_____



MAYOR

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



PORT COLBORNE

Legislative Services

Municipal Offices: 66 Charlotte Street
Port Colborne, Ontario L3K 3C8 · www.portcolborne.ca

T 905.228.8031 F 905.834.5746

E saima.tufail@portcolborne.ca

March 20, 2024

Via email: todd.mccarthy@pc.ola.org

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M5B 2H7

Dear Honourable Todd McCarthy:

Re: Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that, at its meeting of January 23, 2024 the Council of The Corporation of the City of Port Colborne resolved as follows:

That the correspondence item received from the Township of Clearview regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support be supported.

A copy of the above noted resolution is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

S. Tufail

Saima Tufail
Acting City Clerk

cc. Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Brian Saunderson
MPP Jeff Burch
MPP Sam Oosterhoff
MPP Jennifer Stevens
MPP Wayne Gates
All Ontario Municipalities



Clerk's Department
Township of Clearview
Box 200, 217 Gideon Street
Stayner, Ontario L0M 1S0
clerks@clearview.ca | www.clearview.ca
Phone: 705-428-6230

December 12, 2023

File: C00.2023

Hon. Todd McCarthy
Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M5B 2H7

Sent by Email

RE: Cemetery Transfer / Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Please be advised that Council of the Township of Clearview, at its meeting held on December 11, 2023, passed a resolution regarding Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support as follows:

Moved by Councillor Walker, Seconded by Councillor Broderick, Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

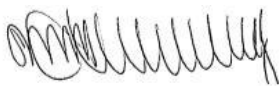
Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries; Page 6 of 7
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities. Motion Carried.

For reference, please find attached the Staff Report LS-032-2023 that provides background for the above resolution. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Sasha HelmKay-Playter, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC
Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

cc: Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar
MPP Simcoe Grey, Brian Saunderson
Ontario Municipalities

To: Mayor and Council

From: Sasha Helmkey, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Report # LS-032-2023 – Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support

Recommendation

Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview hereby receives Report LS-032-2023 (Cemetery Transfer/Abandonment Administration & Management Support) dated December 11, 2023; and,

Whereas under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

And Whereas over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

And Whereas municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

And Whereas cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

And Whereas the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that Council of the Township of Clearview requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery transfers:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;
- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

And that this resolution be circulated to the Hon. Todd McCarthy, Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, Jim Cassimatis, BAO Interim CEO/Registrar, MPP Brian Saunderson and all Ontario municipalities.

Background

Under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed.

Over the last decade there appears to be a trend where cemeteries in Ontario are being transferred, whether through abandonment or a mutually agreed upon transfer, to the care and control of municipalities. This is often seen when there is a breakdown in existing cemetery boards and/or when churches cease operations. For many existing private cemetery boards their board members and volunteers are aging and are unable to assist with the operations and maintenance of the cemetery any longer. Finding new members proves to be difficult for these boards to continue. In addition to aging board members, there are other issues that are contributing to the increase in cemetery transfers:

- high maintenance costs
- inaccuracy of records
- lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery

- increased regulatory processes that require ongoing training for selling of interment rights, and the financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.

Township Owned Cemeteries

The Township of Clearview currently owns and operates nine (9) cemeteries within its geographic boundaries. Out of these nine cemeteries, four (4) are considered active meaning that there are still interment rights to be sold, or burials to take place. Below is a chart outlining these cemeteries and their status:

Cemetery Name	Address	Status
Batteau Hill Cemetery	2670 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Bethel Union Cemetery	2249 Creemore Avenue, New Lowell	Inactive
Dunedin Union Cemetery	9 Turkeyroost Lane, Dunedin	Active
Duntroon Pioneer Cemetery	2870 County Road 124, Duntroon	Inactive
Lavender Cemetery	827103 Mulmur/Nottawasaga Townline, Creemore	Active
Old Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	6130 Highway 26, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive
Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery	2279 County Road 42, Stayner	Active
Stayner Union Cemetery	7661 Highway 26, Stayner	Active
Zion Presbyterian Church Cemetery	12358 County Road 10, Sunnidale Corners	Inactive

For the Dunedin and Stayner Union Cemetery, the Township looks after the maintenance and burials through a third-party contractor. The maintenance and burials for the Lavender Cemetery are conducted through the Board. For the Second Line Nottawasaga Cemetery all the interment rights have been sold, but there remains one burial to be completed. The cost to maintain an active cemetery is expensive. Although burial costs and the installation of markers, etc. are cost recovery through the purchaser, grounds maintenance is not.

Inactive cemeteries still require consistent grounds maintenance, which includes any monument restoration for health and safety, and record searches for the public register.

Comments and Analysis

When analyzing the number of cemeteries that Clearview Township currently owns and operates, maintenance and administration is a large undertaking. To add any additional cemeteries by way of transfer or abandonment will only compound the issues the Township is already facing. In the past year, the Township has been approached by two separate entities regarding possible cemetery transfers. When a board or cemetery transfers ownership to the municipality, the issues are transferred with it. Municipalities are not immune to the same concerns. It becomes a strain on municipal resources, financially, administratively, and operationally.

Administrative Impact

From an administrative perspective the management of four active cemeteries is both time consuming and complex. No interment is the same, and providing good customer service takes time especially for those making arrangements while also dealing with grief. Administrative tasks include but are not limited to: interment right sales and mapping, burial contracts and scheduling, monument placement, historical record searches, plot and monument staking, fees and charges review, family transfers of interment rights and annual reporting to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO).

- **Incomplete records**

Often the records accepted by the Township from a dissolved cemetery board or church are incomplete and disorganized. This is no fault of the previous board members, as they are also often operating with limited resources. However, it does make it difficult to manage the cemetery post-transfer when records are sparse. Understanding which plots are occupied and by who is critical to the sound management of a cemetery. Unfortunately, this is not made possible in all cases because of incomplete records. In addition, records received during a transfer usually are maintained under different records management standards and are often organized and named inconsistently. Adaptation to Township records keeping practices takes time.

- **Lack of human resources**

Cemetery management is a highly regulated professional field, with the responsibility of which is often placed on public sector employees who may have limited knowledge of cemeteries in general. With reduced resources within municipalities especially rural ones, the management of cemeteries often becomes a secondary responsibility to another position. There is also a lack of affordable training available for municipal employees who are required to abide by regulations set out by the FBCSA and the BAO.

- Increased regulatory processes

Annual reporting requirements of the BAO can be extensive and complex. This includes monitoring the number of interments, the transfers to the Care and Maintenance Fund (C&M), and how the C&M fund can be used. There are also regulations pertaining to maintaining a public register, how sales are to be conducted and strict guidelines on Cemetery By-law approvals, and expansions including the erection of columbaria structures.

- Inconsistent cemetery regulations

Cemeteries can have many different regulations related to plot size, number of burials allowed in a given plot, monument size, what types of flowers/shrubs are allowed to be installed near a headstone etc. The transfer of different cemeteries having inconsistent regulations can make it difficult to adapt management practices in order to maintain original cemetery operational standards.

Operational Impact

Similarly, from an operational perspective the grounds maintenance of cemeteries, whether active or inactive, is both time consuming and complex. A key issue when analyzing the maintenance component of cemetery management is the lack of financial resources to support the operation. Cemetery maintenance includes, but is not limited to: grass cutting (whipper snipping around monuments), tree and shrub maintenance, monument and corner stone maintenance, water pipe and washroom monitoring, and general upkeep of cemetery grounds (removal of debris, etc.).

- High maintenance costs

As with many services, there are rising costs to contend with. Municipalities have adopted different models to address the maintenance of such, with third party contractors being commonly used or it becomes the responsibility of an internal department such as Parks & Recreation. Regardless the model, the costs have increased significantly over the last decade with equipment purchases/upgrades, insurance requirements for third-party contractors, and the time it takes to cut the grass and whipper snip around monuments. To put it into perspective, the Stayner Union Cemetery with the expansion is 25 acres with monuments to manoeuvre around during ground care. Other considerations for maintenance includes monument restoration and ensuring that they are not deteriorated to the point where they are unsafe. This is important for older cemeteries where restoration hasn't been provided in the past and there are many deteriorating monuments.

- Cost of cemetery management software

Cemetery Management Software can help municipalities manage cemetery records, including plot sale contracts, interment rights certificates, and regulatory reporting.

However, these software solutions are often expensive and require a large amount of staff time to implement especially with incomplete data and records. These software solutions range in price from \$5,000 to \$100,000 with annual maintenance costs. This investment in software can be a large budget request and one that would need to be supported from taxation with the limited funds in cemetery general accounts.

- **Inadequate Care and Maintenance funds**

When the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA) was enacted, it stipulated that a care and maintenance fund for a cemetery shall be established. A cemetery operator is required to make contributions to the fund from the sale of in-ground graves, crypts, tombs, niches, scattering rights and monument installation. The contribution is prescribed under the FBCSA and differs dependant on the interment type. The idea is that the fund (income earned from the fund - interest) pays for maintenance costs after a cemetery has stopped making sales. In reality, this concept does not produce enough funds to maintain a cemetery. Looking at the Stayner Union Cemetery as an example, for the very basics (grass cutting and whipper snipping) the interest from the care and maintenance fund does not provide enough monies to maintain the cemetery for the 7 months it's required. In addition, the care and maintenance fund is also to be utilized for the stabilization, maintenance and security of markers. Cemeteries are not self funding, and maintenance of such is becoming a larger budget concern.

Support Request

Cemetery transfers and abandonments have been an ongoing concern for Clearview Township for many years. When you look at the large geography of the Township there are many cemeteries within the boundaries that have the potential to be transferred. To gauge the concern of other municipalities on this issue, staff addressed it at a Simcoe County Clerks group discussion. Many neighbouring municipalities expressed that they were dealing with the same issues and have also been approached by different external entities on possible transfers.

As result of the discussion, it was agreed that to assist with the real concerns with transfers and abandonments of cemeteries, it's vital that the Province provide assistance to adequately support this infrastructure. Support can be provided in many different forms, with staff making the following recommendations for the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the BAO:

- Amend the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA), to have the Province, through the BAO, identified as the default owner and operator of a cemetery when it is abandoned;

- Provide annual funding (based on the number of cemeteries a municipality owns and operates) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;
- Provide free training opportunities for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
- Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

There is not one solution to solve all the issues, but at the very least it's important to identify the concerns and have open and real discussions at the provincial level on what support can be provided.

Clearview's Strategic Plan

The above initiative supports the following strategic pillars:

- Governance

Financial Implications

It is difficult to identify an exact dollar amount that can be attributed to a cemetery transfer/abandonment to the municipality. Every transfer is different and depends on a multitude of factors beginning with the cemetery status (active/inactive), acreage, care and maintenance fund (if any), maintenance of records, etc. What is being recommended by staff by way of support from the province is not meant to erase the costs entirely, but rather, to alleviate the financial burden in some capacity.

Report Appendices

Not applicable.

Approvals

Submitted by:	Sasha HelmKay, B.A., Dipl. M.A., AOMC, Clerk/Director of Legislative Services
Reviewed by:	Krista Pascoe, Deputy Clerk
Financial Implications Reviewed by:	Kelly McDonald, Treasurer
Approved by:	John Ferguson, CAO

April 18, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Request for Provincial Support for Cemetery Operations

At its meeting of April 10, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-066, regarding Request for Provincial Support for Cemetery Operations, as follows:

“WHEREAS under the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, when a cemetery is declared abandoned by a judge of the Superior Court Justice, the local municipality within whose geographic boundaries the land of the cemetery is located, becomes the owner of the cemetery with all the rights and obligations in respect of the cemetery and the assets, trust funds and trust accounts related to it that the previous owner or operator possessed;

AND WHEREAS over the last decade, there has been an increase in the number of churches and local cemetery boards initiating processes to transfer ownership or abandon their owned and operated cemeteries to the local municipality due to such issues as high maintenance costs, inaccuracy of records, lack of financial and human resources to effectively operate and maintain the cemetery, increased regulatory processes regarding training, selling of interment rights, financial operation of the care and maintenance fund, etc.;

AND WHEREAS municipalities experience the same issues and pressures that churches and local boards experience with the operation and maintenance of cemeteries within its jurisdiction, and additional transfers of cemetery lands only compound the burden on municipal taxpayers;

AND WHEREAS cemeteries are important infrastructure where the reasonable costs for interment rights, burials, monument foundations, corner stones and administration charges do not sufficiently support the general operation of cemeteries;

AND WHEREAS the interest earned from the care and maintenance fund(s) of a cemetery do not provide adequate funding to maintain the cemetery with the rising costs of lawn and turf maintenance contracts and monument restoration;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge requests that the Province through the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery and the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) consider the following to assist municipalities in this growing concern of cemetery operations:

1. That the Province of Ontario provide annual funding (equitably allocated based on the operating costs of cemeteries) to municipalities to assist with the maintenance of inactive and active cemeteries;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262
public works fax: (705) 645-7525
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

2. Provide free training opportunities and resources for municipalities regarding cemetery administration; and,
3. Investigate and support the design of universal cemetery software for use by municipal cemetery operators that can be offered at an affordable cost.

AND THAT this resolution be circulated to the Ministry of Public and Business Service Delivery, the Bereavement Authority of Ontario CEO/Registrar, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Finance; the Local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); and all Ontario Municipalities.”

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk

April 18, 2024

Re: Item for Discussion – Correspondence from Muskoka Domestic Abuse Review Team, dated January 2024, regarding Declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic

At its meeting of April 10, 2024, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motion #24-GC-068, regarding Declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an Epidemic, as follows:

“WHEREAS in June 2022 the Culleton, Kuzyk & Warmerdam Inquest was held to investigate the circumstances surrounding the deaths of Carol Culleton, Anastasia Kuzyk and Nathalie Warmerdam, all of whom were killed by the same perpetrator on September 22, 2015;

AND WHEREAS the jury returned eighty-six (86) powerful recommendations, the first calling on the Ontario Government to declare of Intimate Partner Violence as an epidemic;

AND WHEREAS on August 16th, 2023, the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada Arif Virani described Gender-Based Violence as “an epidemic” in the federal government’s formal response to a coroner’s inquest, also stating that his government is committed to ending the Gender-Based Violence epidemic “in all its forms, and is working to address any gaps in the Criminal Code to ensure a robust justice system response”;

AND WHEREAS the incidences of Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence increased exponentially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has not decreased, while funding to provide the growing demand of services and support for victims and survivors of Intimate Partner Violence and Gender-Based Violence has not kept pace;

AND WHEREAS by declaring Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic, the Town of Bracebridge can join the growing number of municipalities in Ontario demanding action from all levels of government to address this growing epidemic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Town of Bracebridge declares Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

AND FURTHER THAT the Province of Ontario be requested to declare Gender-Based Violence and Intimate Partner Violence an epidemic;

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada

telephone: (705) 645-5264
corporate services and finance fax: (705) 645-1262
public works fax: (705) 645-7525
planning & development fax: (705) 645-4209

AND FURTHER THAT that this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity; Attorney General; Solicitor General; Minister of Health; Member of Provincial Parliament for Parry Sound-Muskoka; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO); Muskoka Area Indigenous Leadership Table (MAILT); and all Ontario Municipalities."

In accordance with Council's direction, I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for your reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lori McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Lori McDonald
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk



181 Perry Street, PO Box 780
Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7
Phone: 905-985-7346
Fax: 905-985-9917
scugog.ca

Sent Via Email to: premier@ontario.ca

April 18, 2024

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

The Honourable Michale D. Ford
Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism
14th Floor, 56 Wellesley Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 2E7

RE: Proposed Amendment to Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to the removal of listed (non-designated) properties from Municipal heritage registers

Please be advised that the Township of Scugog, at its Regular Council meeting on March 25, 2024, passed the following motion supporting the resolution from the Town of Cobourg regarding Proposed Amendment to Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act with respect to the removal of listed (non-designated) properties from Municipal heritage registers:

1. **THAT** the Council of the Township of Scugog authorize the Mayor to send a letter to Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and Michael Ford, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism, requesting that Subsection 27(16) of the Ontario Heritage Act be amended to extend the deadline for five years from January 1, 2025 to January 1, 2030;
2. **AND THAT** Council direct staff to forward this resolution to all 443 municipalities in Ontario seeking support of the ACO correspondence.

Attached please find a copy of the Architectural Conservancy Ontario correspondence dated February 8, 2024.

To access this document in an accessible format, please contact 905-985-7346 ext. 115



181 Perry Street, PO Box 780
Port Perry, ON L9L 1A7
Phone: 905-985-7346
Fax: 905-985-9917
scugog.ca

I know that you value the history and heritage of our province and the contributions made to our society of those who came before us. By preserving our architectural and built heritage, we honour those contributions and the historical foundations of our communities.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Wilma Wotten'.

Wilma Wotten
Mayor, Township of Scugog
/cr

Enclosure

CC All Ontario Municipalities

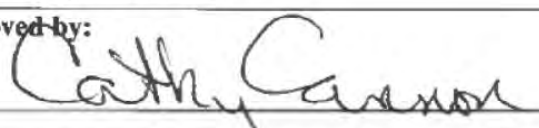
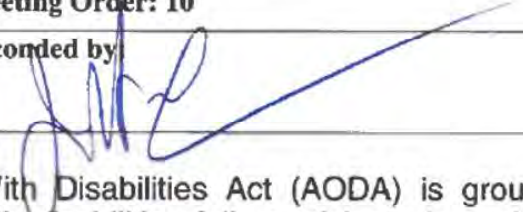


The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

Resolution # RC24087	Meeting Order: 10
Moved by: 	Seconded by: 

WHEREAS the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

AND WHEREAS Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

AND WHEREAS at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

AND WHEREAS the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

AND WHEREAS people with disabilities and advocates, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality of Wawa is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

p.2...



The Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

RESOLUTION

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Corporation of the Municipality of Wawa Council strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modelled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

AND FURTHER THAT that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

RESOLUTION RESULT		RECORDED VOTE		
☒	CARRIED	MAYOR AND COUNCIL	YES	NO
☐	DEFEATED	Mitch Hatfield		
☐	TABLED	Cathy Cannon		
☐	RECORDED VOTE (SEE RIGHT)	Melanie Pilon		
☐	PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARED	Jim Hoffmann		
☐	WITHDRAWN	Joseph Opat		

Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the general nature thereof.

- ☐ Disclosed the pecuniary interest and general name thereof and abstained from the discussion, vote and influence.

Clerk: _____

MAYOR - MELANIE PILON	CLERK - MAURU O'NEILL

This document is available in alternate formats.

March 28, 2024

Please be advised that during the regular Council meeting of March 26, 2024 the following resolution regarding support for 'a call to action' to meet the deadline of an Accessible Ontario by 2025 was carried.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-151

DATE: March 26, 2024

MOVED BY: Councillor MacNaughton

SECONDED BY: Councillor Pennell

WHEREAS the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act (AODA) is ground-breaking legislation, created to help people with disabilities fully participate in society, bring them to the table in crafting regulations, and build mechanisms to enforce standards;

WHEREAS Rich Donovan, an expert in accessibility issues, was appointed as the Independent Reviewer of the Act in 2022, and in his 2023 legislative review declared a crisis as a necessary catalyst to get Ontario back on track for accessibility;

WHEREAS at least 2.9 million Ontarians currently live with a disability, representing at least 22% of the consumer base and the workforce, but due to barriers, Ontarians with disabilities are too often falling short of their full potential;

WHEREAS the AODA aims to develop, implement and enforce standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings before Jan. 1, 2025, and municipalities, as the level of government closest to the people are at the front lines, developing, implementing and enforcing these standards without meaningful guidance on its implementation and/or enforcement by the Province;

WHEREAS people with disabilities and advocates, including Prince Edward County's Accessibility Advisory Committee, note the slow pace of current and previous Ontario governments in implementing the AODA and there are growing concerns there will be no renewed push to keep accessibility issues at the forefront after 2025;

WHEREAS Prince Edward County is dedicated and committed to creating a welcoming environment so that all people may have equitable access to programs, goods, services and facilities, but making investments to achieve the AODA

standards has been challenging given the lack of consistent and stable funding for municipalities to remove accessibility barriers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Prince Edward County strongly encourages action on the part of the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a) create a "Municipal Accessibility Fund" for municipalities to develop, implement and enforce AODA standards related to goods, services, accommodation, employment and buildings. Such a fund could be modeled after the Canada Community-Building Fund or the Ontario Cannabis Legalization Implementation Fund on a per household basis;
- b) to commit to working with municipalities to implement the Donovan Review immediate crisis recommendations;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mayor write a letter in support of this resolution to the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Seniors and Accessibility, the Minister of Children, Community, and Social Services, the Minister of Health, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, and the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus, and all Ontario Municipalities.

CARRIED

Yours truly,



Catalina Blumenberg, **CLERK**

cc: Mayor Steve Ferguson, Councillor MacNaughton, Councillor Pennell, and Marcia Wallace, CAO